STORY AND ART
TOMOYA HARUNO

10

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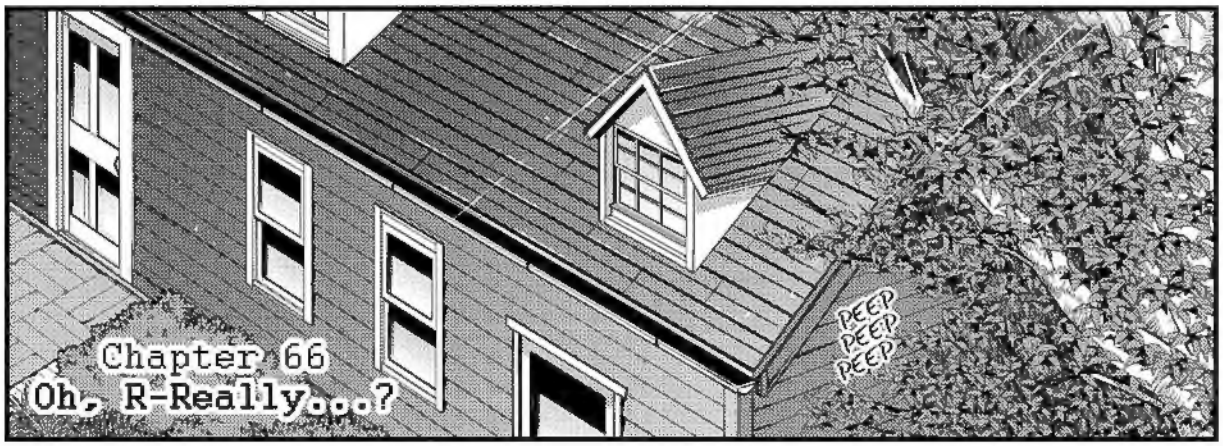
D-FRAGMENTS

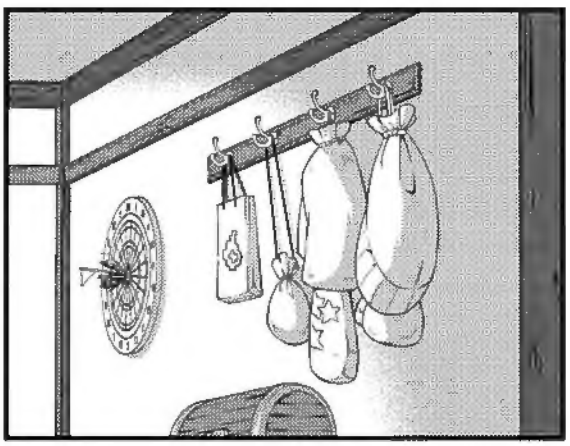
10

ディーふらぐ!

Tomoya Haruno Presents

D-FRAG!


Chapter 66
Oh, R-Really...?
PEEP
PEEP
PEEP

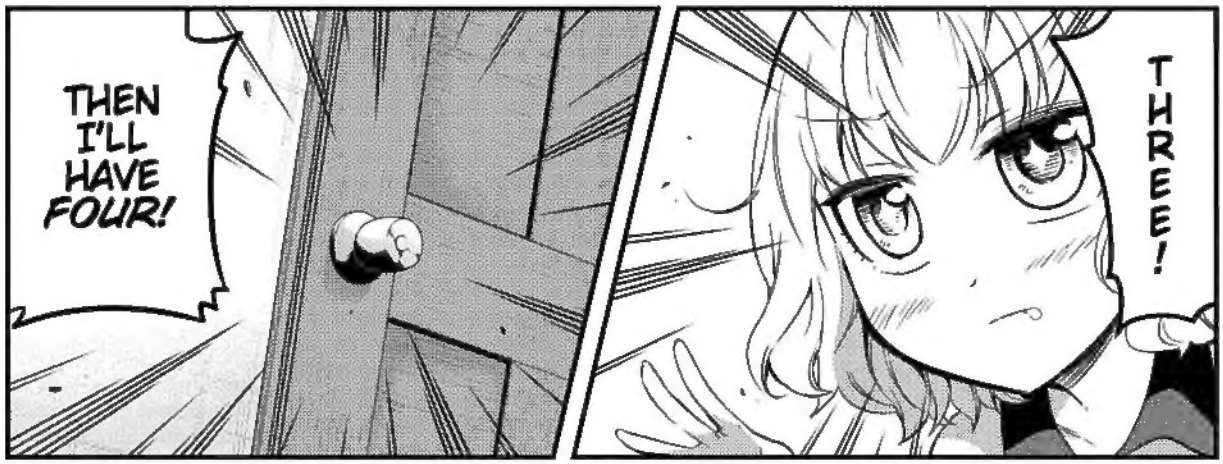


ZZ

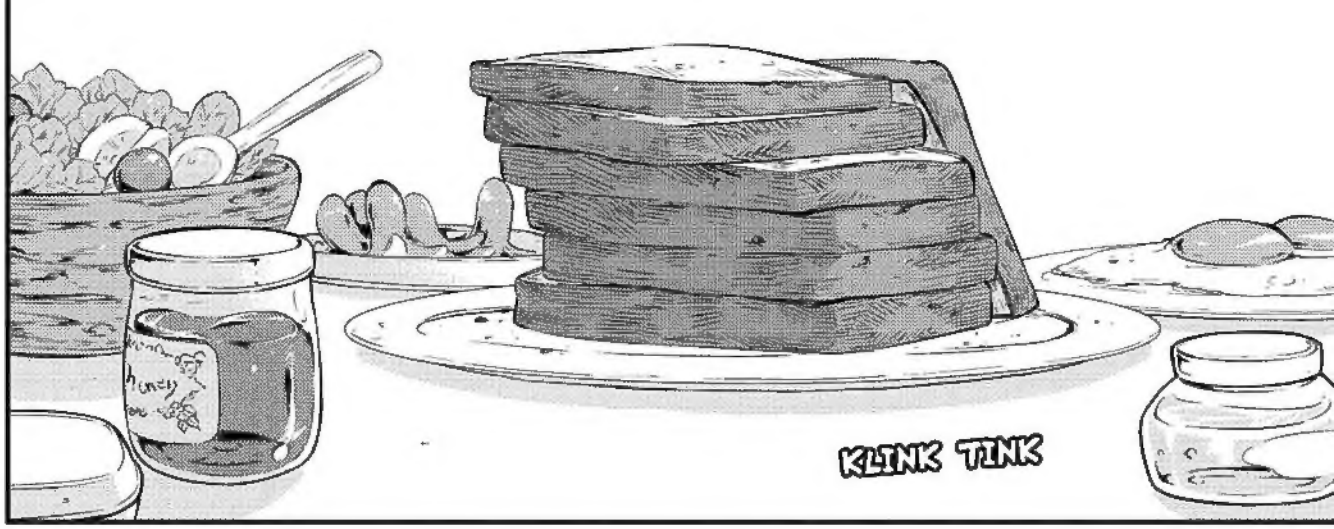
BLINK...

YOU ARE THERE, AREN'T YOU?
RISE
I'M SURPRISED YOU NOTICED.
YES...
I DELIBERATELY ALLOWED A TRACE TO ESCAPE.
HEH...
YOU FAILED TO COMPLETELY HIDE YOUR AURA.

HEY, MOM? ONEE-CHAN?
HOW MANY SLICES OF TOAST DO YOU GUYS WANT?


THREE!
THEN I'LL HAVE FOUR!

I'm glad I had two bags handy.


KLINK TINK

YOU GOT IT! ♪

TSUTSUJI-CHAN, PLEASE PASS THE SOY SAUCE.

NO, NOT "MOM."
MOM, PLEASE PASS THE KETCHUP!

HOW MANY TIMES MUST I TELL YOU? CALL ME "MOTHER."

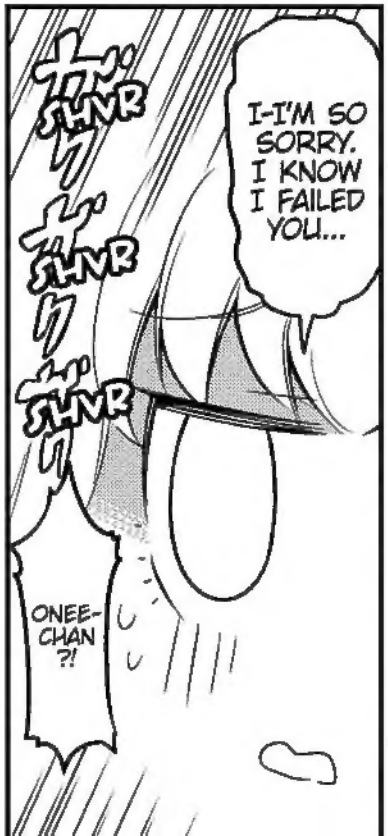
MOM. KETCHUP.
PSSS.
YOU USED TO CALL ME "MOTHER" ALL THE TIME. I GUESS YOU'VE HIT YOUR REBELLIOUS TEENAGE PHASE.
SIGH...
OF COURSE I STOPPED! ONLY SNOTTY RICH KIDS CALL THEIR MOMS "MOTHER"!
WHAT'S WRONG WITH BEING CALLED LADY TSUTSUJI?
HMPH!
YOU HAVE THE WEIRDEST IDEA ABOUT WHAT'S NORMAL, MOM!
I GOT SOOO MUCH FLAK FROM THE OTHER KIDS IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AND MIDDLE SCHOOL FOR IT, TOO!
Mother! Mother!
Hiya, Lady Tsu-tsuji!
Yo, Miss Tsu-tsuji!
SUDS!
Here comes the Young Miss!
I THINK "LADY TSUTSUJI" SOUNDS NICE.
OH, R-REALLY ...?

DON'T CRY, MOM.
YOU LIKE ROKA-CHAN BETTER THAN ME, DON'T YOU TSUTSUJI-CHAN?
SHE WANTS OTHERS TO CALL ME "LADY" BUT STILL ADDS "CHAN" TO MY NAME...
@UIVER @UIVER
GAH !!

ANYWAY, I CAN HARDLY WAIT TO SEE THE RESULTS OF YOUR FINAL EXAMS...
Heh heh-
AUGH!! NO FAIR! THAT'S A LOW BLOW, MOM!!

DON'T WORRY, YOU'LL DO FINE! I'LL EVEN HELP YOU STUDY.
ONEE-CHAN!

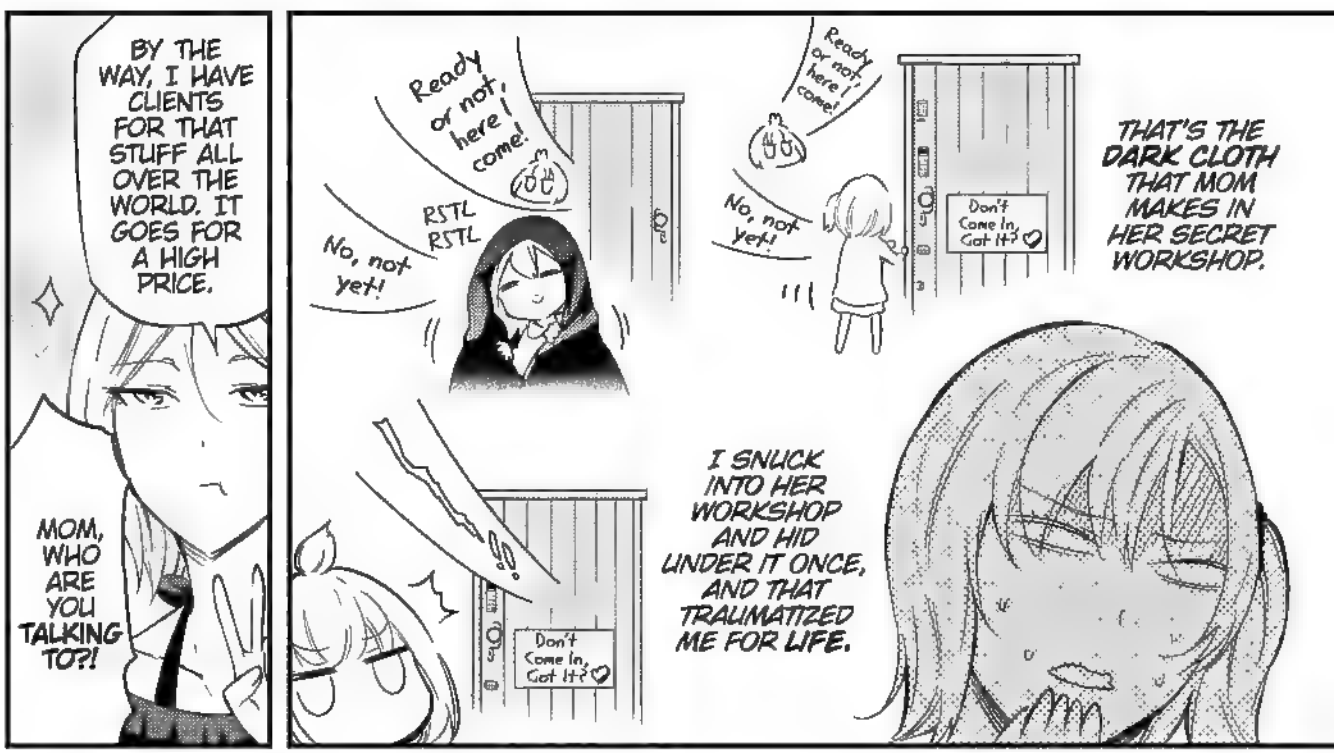
ROKA-CHAN HELPED YOU STUDY FOR YOUR ENTRANCE EXAMS AND YOU STILL FAILED TO GET INTO FUJOU ACADEMY.
CHOMP
MOM !!


I-I'M SO SORRY. I KNOW I FAILED YOU...
SHVR
SHVR
SHVR
ONEE-CHAN ?!

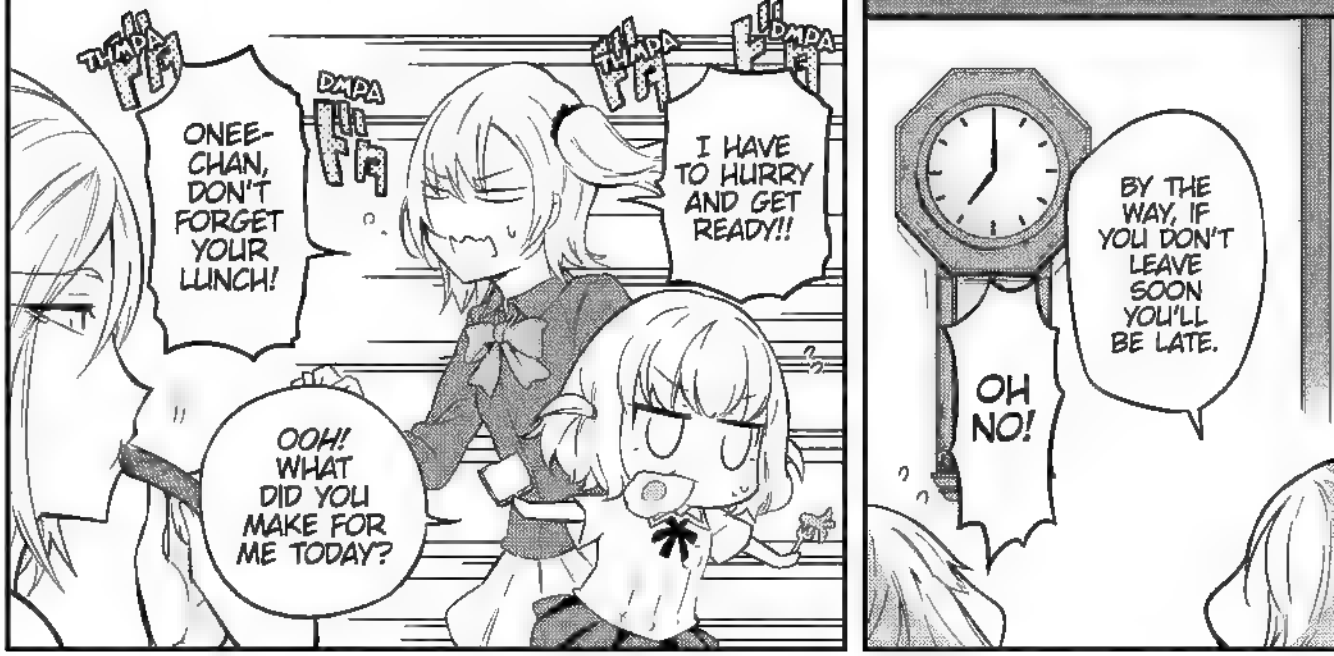
Something-Something-College
YES! WE'LL FINALLY GET TO LIVE THE SWEET SCHOOL LIFE I'VE BEEN DREAMING OF!
AND IT WILL BE PARADISE...!!
♪
COL-LEGE ?
I-IT'S OKAY! WE MIGHT BE IN DIFFERENT HIGH SCHOOLS, BUT WE CAN STILL GO TO COLLEGE TOGETHER !!
YOU TWO WENT TO THE SAME ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOL. ISN'T THAT ENOUGH?
MUNCH
MUNCH
MOM !!
YOU'LL FAIL.
AND DO YOU REALLY WANT TO GO TO COLLEGE, TSUTSUJI-CHAN? REALLY?
YOU'RE ALREADY REALLY GOOD AT ALL KINDS OF DOMESTIC STUFF. WHY NOT JUST GET A CAREER AS A HOUSE-WIFE?
WHAT ABOUT MY DREAM OF SHARING AN APARTMENT WITH ONEE-CHAN?!
WAIT A MINUTE, WHAT'S THIS ABOUT ME GOING TO COLLEGE?
HUH ?!
ONCE I GRADUATE FROM HIGH SCHOOL, I THOUGHT I'D TAKE OVER FOR MOTHER AT HER JOB...
ARE YOU SE-RIOUS ?!
WHO CARES ABOUT THAT DUMB JOB? LET IT DIE WHEN MOM DOES!

HERE.
SWFF...
THIS MONTH'S CLOTH ALLO-WANCE.
"When mom does" she says...
OH REALLY?

THERE IT IS!!
WITH THIS, I CAN MAKE ANOTHER BAG.
AH, THANK YOU.


BY THE WAY, I HAVE CLIENTS FOR THAT STUFF ALL OVER THE WORLD. IT GOES FOR A HIGH PRICE.
MOM, WHO ARE YOU TALKING TO?!
Ready or not, here I come!
RSTL RSTL
No, not yet!
Don't Come In, Got It?♡
THAT'S THE DARK CLOTH THAT MOM MAKES IN HER SECRET WORKSHOP.
I SNUCK INTO HER WORKSHOP AND HID UNDER IT ONCE, AND THAT TRAUMATIZED ME FOR LIFE.

ROKA-CHAN, YOU'VE BEEN USING UP YOUR SHARE WAY TOO FAST LATELY.
YOU DO KNOW HOW MUCH WORK IT TAKES TO MAKE THIS CLOTH, RIGHT?
I'M SORRY.
OH WELL. I GUESS IF YOU NEED THAT MANY BAGS, IT JUST MEANS YOU HAVE BEEN CHALLENGING POWERFUL OPPONENTS.
YES. I HAVE MANY A WORTHY FOE.
Aniki ?!
AH-CHOO!
IT SOUNDS LIKE FUJOU ACADEMY IS AN ENTERTAINING SCHOOL.
Heh heh heh..
YES.
VERY.
IF YOU HAD GONE THERE, TSUTSUJI-CHAN, YOU WOULDN'T HAVE LASTED A MINUTE.
GOOD THING YOU WENT TO EAST FUGE HIGH INSTEAD.
BE-CAUSE YOU SUCK.
DWAH?! FUJOU CAN'T BE THAT TOUGH, RIGHT?! ONEECHAN, I'M WORRIED ABOUT YOU!!
IT'S OKAY. IT'S JUST FULL OF GANGS AND DELIN-QUENTS.
WHAT ?!

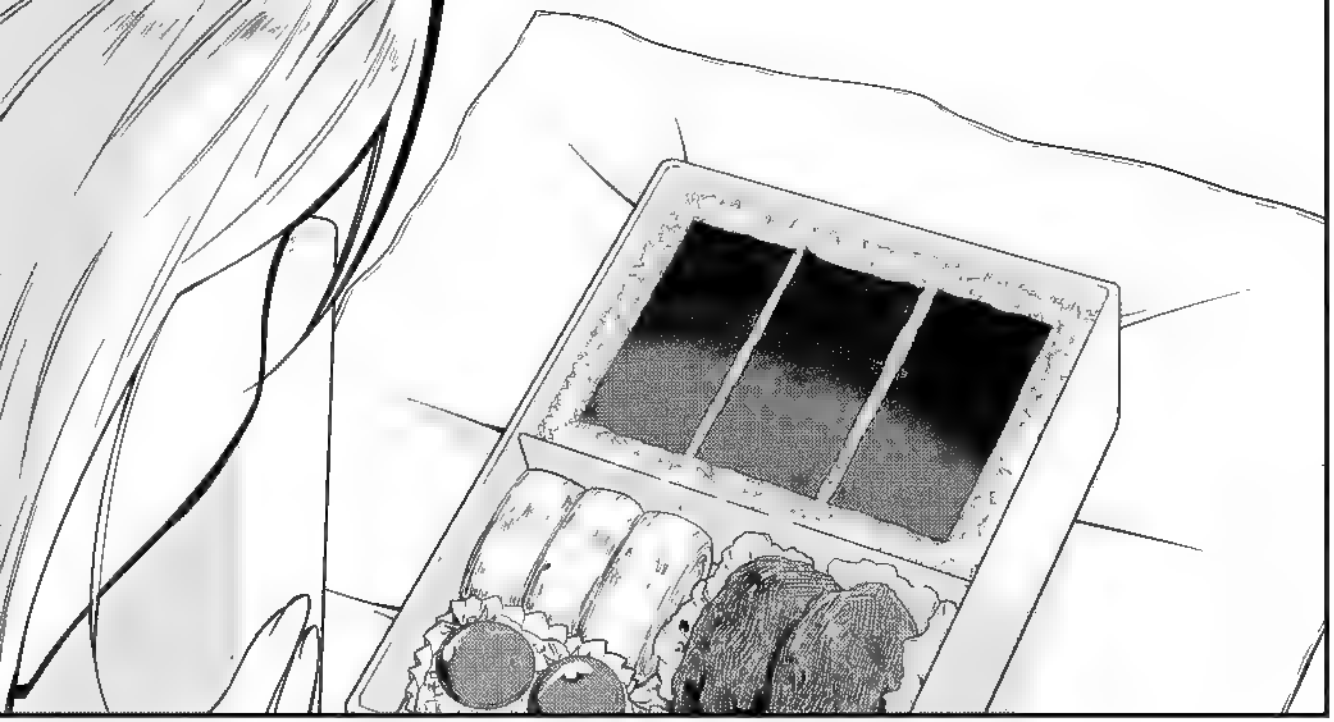

THUMPA
DAMPA
ONEE-CHAN, DON'T FORGET YOUR LUNCH!
I HAVE TO HURRY AND GET READY!!
OOH! WHAT DID YOU MAKE FOR ME TODAY?
BY THE WAY, IF YOU DON'T LEAVE SOON YOU'LL BE LATE.
OH NO!

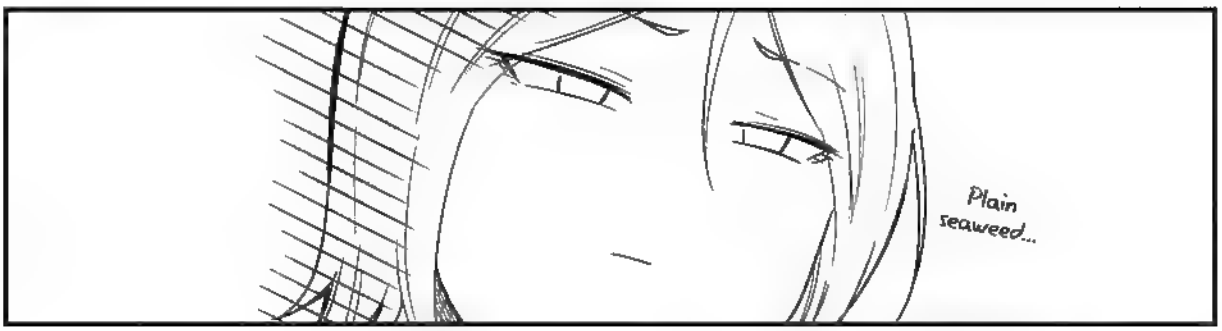
.....
I DIDN'T HAVE TIME TO MAKE ANY SEAWEED LETTERS TODAY.
TAKE A LOOK!
OOH, BEAU-TIFUL! THANK YOU AGAIN FOR DOING THIS EVERY DAY.

CAN I OPEN IT?
SURE.
GLANCE GLANCE

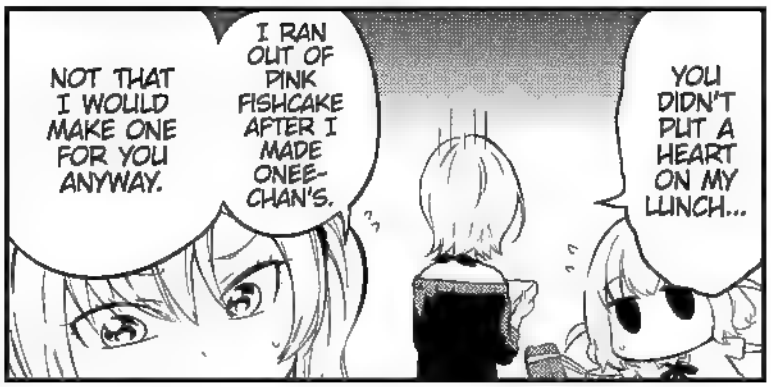
I'M SO SORRY I ACCUSED YOU OF BEING REBEL-LIOUS.
SWEEEEN
YOU KNOW WE DO THIS EVERY MORNING, RIGHT?!

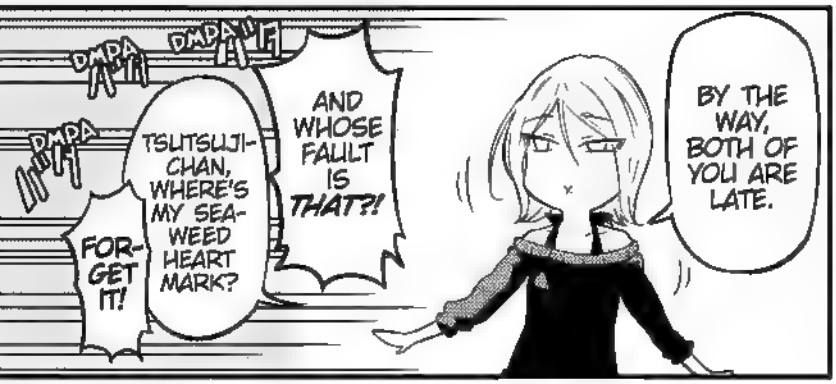
WELL, SINCE YOU INSIST ON MAKING ROKA-CHAN'S LUNCH, I FIGURED YOU MAY AS WELL MAKE MINE TOO.
BUT THANK YOU. TRULY.
WHAT KIND OF MOTHER MAKES HER CHILDREN COOK FOR HER?
YEAH YEAH, THERE'S ONE FOR YOU, TOO, MOM. HERE.




Plain seaweed...

IF THERE'S NO FISHCAKE, MAKE ONE FOR ME WITH SEAWEED.
HARUMPH!!
UGH, GROW UP!


I RAN OUT OF PINK FISHCAKE AFTER I MADE ONEE-CHAN'S.
NOT THAT I WOULD MAKE ONE FOR YOU ANYWAY.
YOU DIDN'T PUT A HEART ON MY LUNCH...


BY THE WAY, BOTH OF YOU ARE LATE.
AND WHOSE FAULT IS THAT?!
TSUTSUJI-CHAN, WHERE'S MY SEA-WEED HEART MARK?
FOR-GET IT!
DMPA
DMPA
DMPA

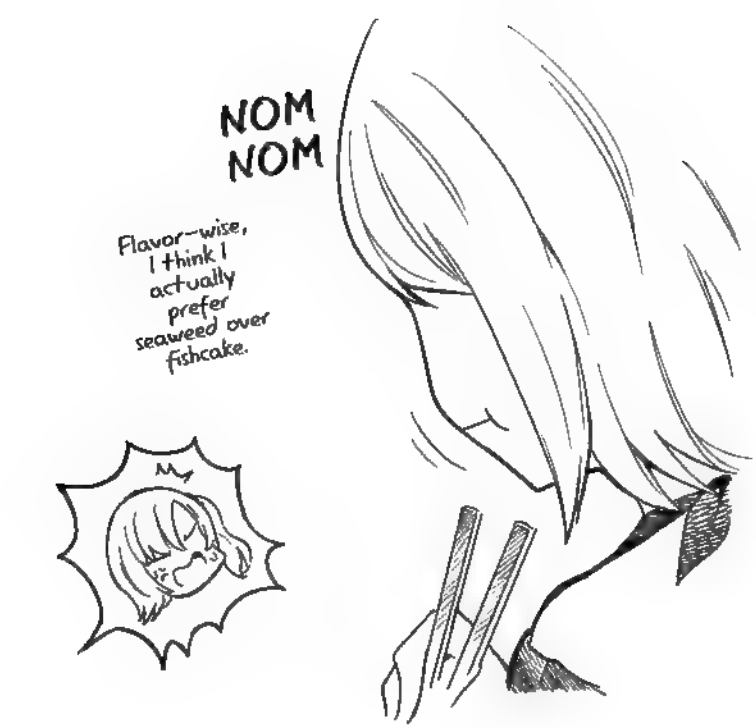
DROOL
OOH, SEA-WEED...
ONEE-CHAN ?!

PUFF
WHEEZE
HUFF
JUST IN TIME!
WHEW ...
ALMOST LATE AGAIN, TSU-CHI!
DID YA SLEEP IN?
BHING BOOONG
EAST FUGE HIGH.

HUH?
Y'SEE, EVERY MORNING, MOTHER IS LIKE--
LOOK, YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT I HAVE TO PUT UP WITH EACH MORNING!

"MO-THER"?
SHE SAD "MO-THER"
AUUUGH!!
HUH?

AND WHY ARE YOU IN MY HOME-ROOM?
WHY DO YOU HAVE YOUR LUNCH OUT ALREADY?!
BUT I GET THE SEA-WEED! YAY!
WHEN WAS MY LUNCH SWITCHED WITH MOTHER'S?!
MEAN-WHILE, AT FUJOU ACAD-EMY...
K


NOM
NOM
Flavor-wise, I think I actually prefer seaweed over fishcake.

D-FRAGMENTS
ディーフラグメンツ!

Chapter 67
The Future

NOE'CHI!
NOE'CHI.
NOE'CHI!
C'MON, NOE'CHI.
BOY, YOU'RE REALLY HOLDING OUT THIS TIME, NOE'CHI!
NANANA

SHUT UP ALREADY !!
GRAWR!
OOPS! I SPOKE TOO SOON...

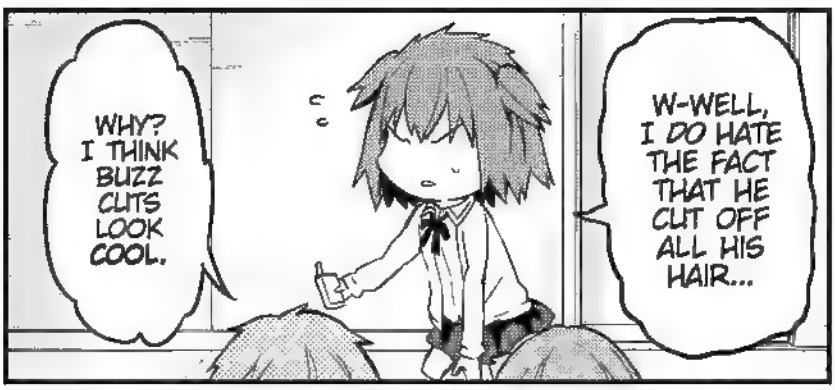
HAVE I NOT ALWAYS USED NOE'CHI?
YEAH!
OGAWA, BE SERIOUS !!

FIRST AND FOREMOST, OGAWA, WHY ARE YOU SUDDENLY CALLING ME "NOE'CHI" ?!
You've always just called me "Noe," like normal!

AH, THERE'S THE NOE'CHI WE KNOW AND LOVE!
WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN ?!

HERE WE GO AGAIN.
HMPH!
AM NOT ...
ANYWAYS! SO WHY ARE YOU IN SUCH A SOUR MOOD?

HEY !!
THAT'S ALL?
WHAT? REALLY?
Y'KNOW? I BETCHA IT'S 'CAUSE HER BROTHER CHOPPED OFF ALL HIS HAIR. I DON'T THINK SHE LIKES THAT.

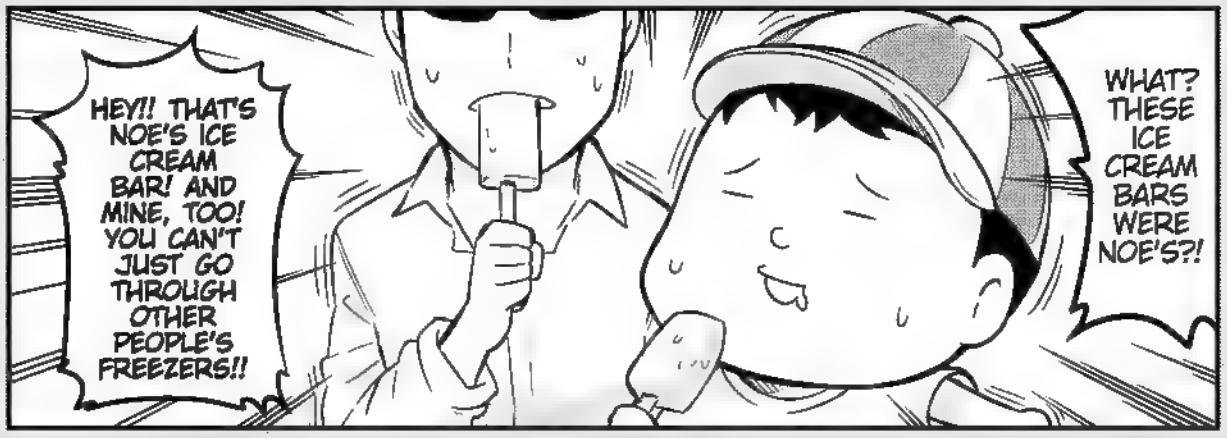

WHY? I THINK BUZZ CUTS LOOK COOL.
W-WELL, I DO HATE THE FACT THAT HE CUT OFF ALL HIS HAIR...

TH-THAT'S NOT IT... RIGHT ?!
SHE HAS TO ASK US? LOOKS LIKE I HIT THE BULLS-EYE.

IT'S NOT THAT I DON'T LIKE BUZZ CUTS...
WAAH...
WAAH...

Now's my chance! Hraaaaah!!
TAKKA
TAKKA
I DIDN'T EAT YOUR ICE CREAM.
WHAT'S WRONG, NOE?

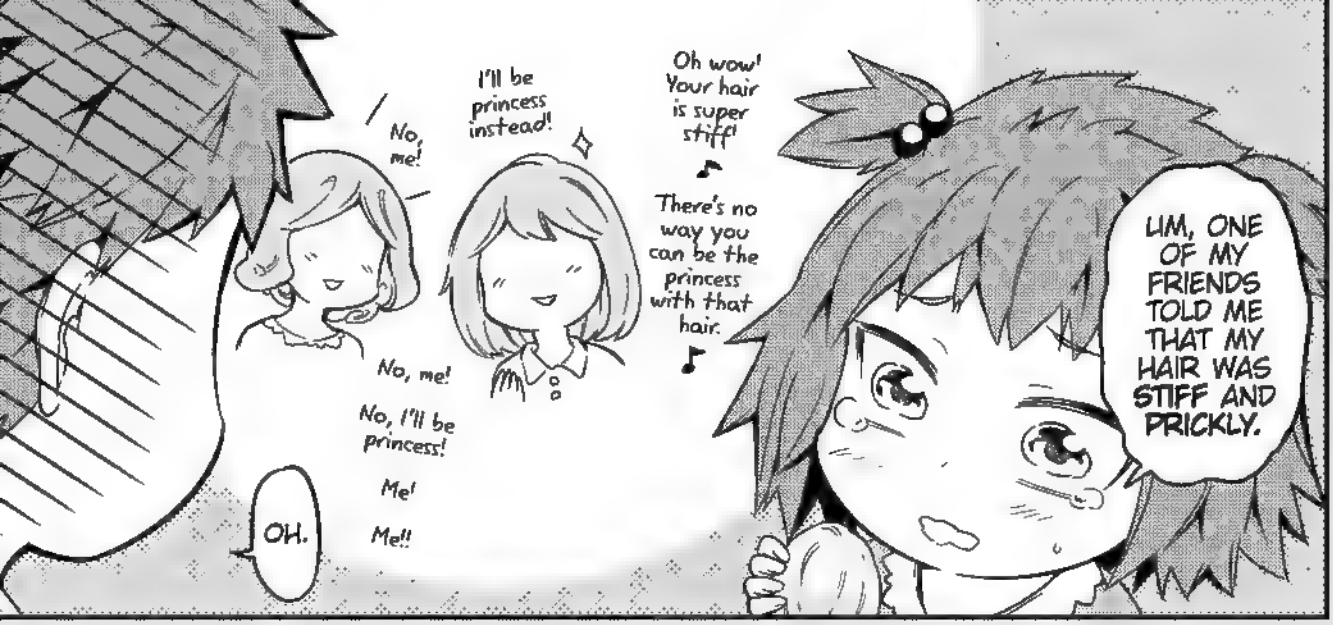
WAAAH!
WAAAH...!


HEY!! THAT'S NOE'S ICE CREAM BAR! AND MINE, TOO! YOU CAN'T JUST GO THROUGH OTHER PEOPLE'S FREEZERS!!
WHAT? THESE ICE CREAM BARS WERE NOE'S?!

UH, THEY'LL BUY YOU EVEN BETTER ICE CREAM TO REPLACE THE ONES THEY ATE.

YIKES! NOW SHE'S CRYING HARDER!
MY ICE CREAM!! THEY ATE IT!!
WAAAAH!!

No, you're the one who ate Noe's ice cream bar!!
You're the one who ate Noe's ice cream bar!!
Wait... they're both the same flavor of the same brand...
I'LL MAKE THEM BUY IT!
ICE CREAM COSTS A LOT OF MONEY...
UM, B-BUT...
ANYWAY, SO WHAT'S WRONG?


UM, ONE OF MY FRIENDS TOLD ME THAT MY HAIR WAS STIFF AND PRICKLY.
Oh wow! Your hair is super stiff!
There's no way you can be the princess with that hair.
I'll be princess instead!
No, me!
No, me!
No, I'll be princess!
Me!
Me!!
OH.

IT'LL HAPPEN SOME-DAY, RIGHT?
UHH ...

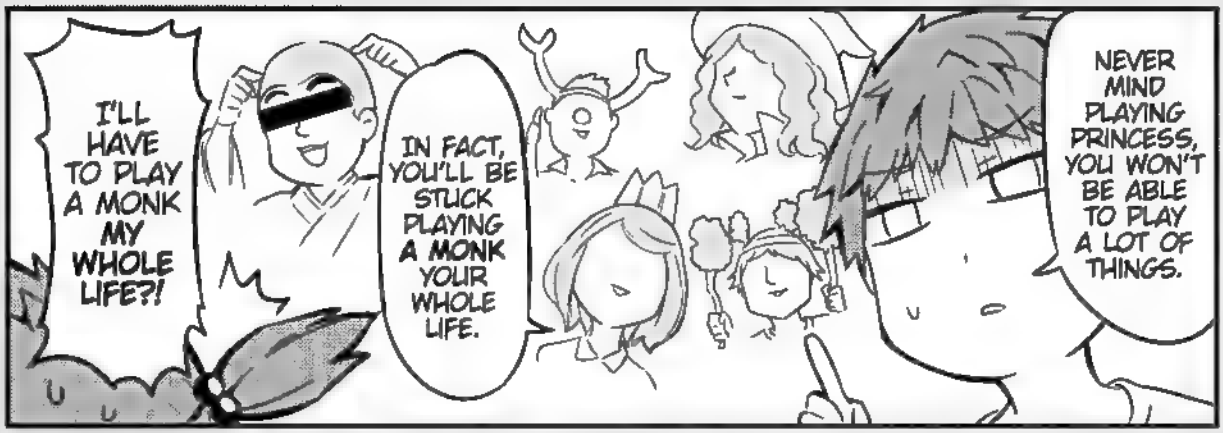
I WANNA HAVE SOFT AND SILKY HAIR, JUST LIKE A PRINCESS.
OH YEAH?

I DOUBT IT.
BOTH MOM AND DAD HAVE SUPER STIFF SPIKY HAIR, TOO.

I HATE MY HAIR! I'M GONNA CUT IT ALL OFF!!
WAAA!
AAAA!
.....

WH-WHY'S IT SUCH A BIG DEAL ANY-WAY?!
!!
!!!

C'MON, GUYS. HELP ME OUT HERE.
FWISH
LEAVE IT TO US!
FWISH
FWISH
FWISH
UGH! FORGET IT! STOP LETTING YOUR SOFT, SILKY HAIR RUSTLE IN THE BREEZE!
OKAY, LISTEN. IF YOU CUT ALL YOUR HAIR OFF...
UHH... THAT WILL HAPPEN. YOU KNOW...


NEVER MIND PLAYING PRINCESS, YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO PLAY A LOT OF THINGS.
IN FACT, YOU'LL BE STUCK PLAYING A MONK YOUR WHOLE LIFE.
I'LL HAVE TO PLAY A MONK MY WHOLE LIFE?!

SO CUTTING OFF ALL YOUR HAIR ISN'T A GOOD IDEA, 'KAY?
YEAH. I DON'T REALLY WANNA ...
BUT...

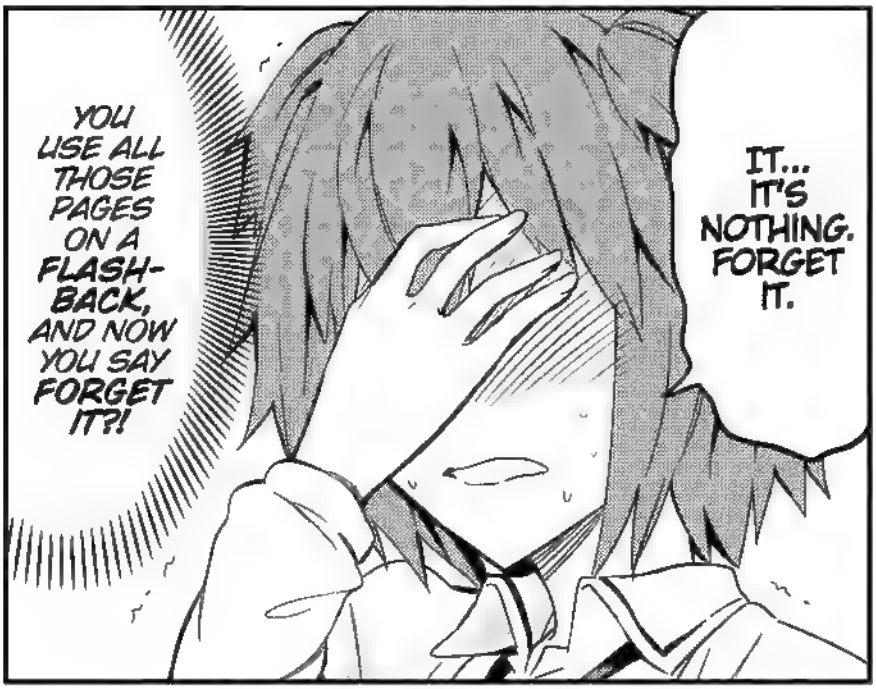
WAAA!
I DON'T WANNA BE A MONK!!
MAYBE I WENT TOO FAR...
I GUESS NO ONE LIKES MONKS.

WHAT, DON'T LIKE THE IDEA OF HAVING THE SAME HAIR AS YOUR BROTHER?
RUFFLE
I-I DIDN'T SAY THAT...

I'M SURE THERE ARE PRINCESSES WITH STIFF HAIR.
'KAY ...
AND BE PROUD OF IT!
SO THEN, LET'S BOTH HAVE THE SAME HAIR...

THE FUTURE ...
THERE, SEE?! NOW YOU'VE GIVEN HER HOPE!

YOU SAY THAT AFTER ALL THE EFFORT I WENT TO CONVINCE HER TO LIKE HER STIFF HAIR?!
And we might get virtual reality and games you can play by touching a screen!
SWEEEET!
WHO KNOWS? IN THE FUTURE THEY MAY INVENT A WAY TO MAKE SPIKY HAIR SOFTER!


YOU USE ALL THOSE PAGES ON A FLASH-BACK, AND NOW YOU SAY FORGET IT?!
IT... IT'S NOTHING. FORGET IT.

THE PRESENT.

WH-WHA?!
!!
Wow, that's amazing!
That's so cute.
OH, I SEE! SO BASICALLY YOU'RE MAD BECAUSE IT FEELS LIKE YOUR BROTHER BROKE HIS PROMISE AND BETRAYED THE BOND BETWEEN YOU!

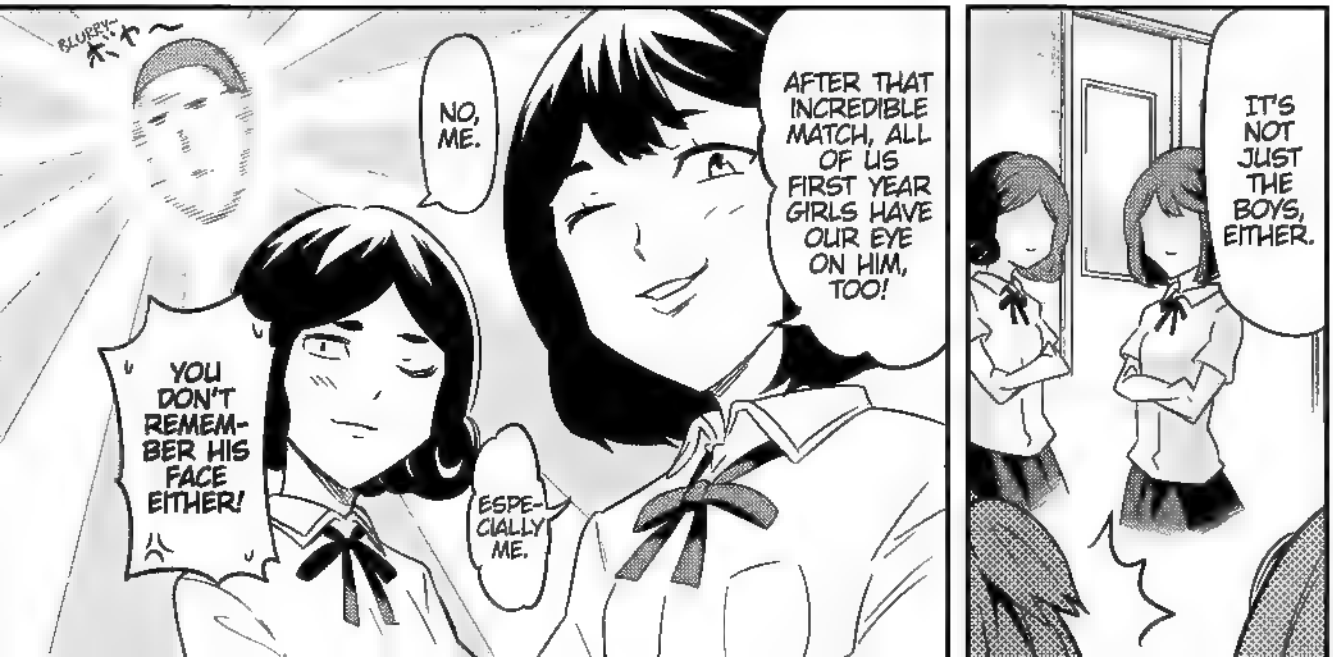
SPLASH
SPLASH
NOT REALLY. ALL I DID WAS GET HIS HAIR WET, WHICH, COINCIDENTALLY, MAKES IT EASIER TO CUT.
THAT WAS PROBABLY THE LAST STRAW!

IT'S THE TRUTH!!
WOW. BLAMING ME AND CHANGING THE TOPIC.
N-NO! AND BESIDES, I HEARD IT WAS YOUR FAULT THAT ANIKI CUT HIS HAIR OFF!

SEE?! I TOLD YOU IT WAS YOUR FAULT!!

HUH? HOW DID DOING THAT CHANGE ANY-THING?
OH WELL. THANKS TO THAT, KAZAMA-ONIICHAN WAS ABLE TO BEAT ROKA-SEMPAI AND SOLIDIFY HIS RANK IN THE SCHOOL HIERARCHY!

BLURRY~ ボヤ～
EVEN SOME RANDOM NPCS KNOW WHO ANIKI IS?!
BUT THEY DON'T SEEM TO REMEMBER ANYTHING ABOUT HIM EXCEPT HIS HAIR!
WORLD
MAN, THAT BATTLE THE OTHER DAY WAS INTENSE! NOW EVEN FIRST YEARS LIKE US HAVE REALIZED JUST HOW AMAZING KAZAMA-SEMPAI IS!


BLURRY~ ボヤ～
NO, ME.
AFTER THAT INCREDIBLE MATCH, ALL OF US FIRST YEAR GIRLS HAVE OUR EYE ON HIM, TOO!
YOU DON'T REMEMBER HIS FACE EITHER!
ESPECIALLY ME.
IT'S NOT JUST THE BOYS, EITHER.

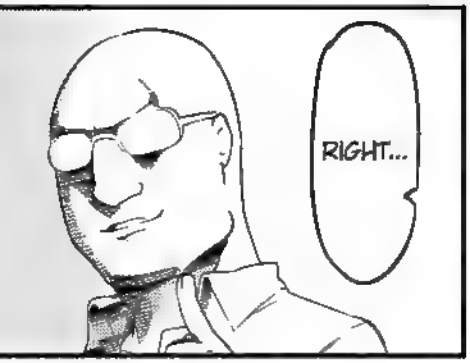
ONIICHAN IS MORE THAN JUST HIS HAIR-STYLE! HE'S A REAL PERSON!!
SHE'S RE-VERTED TO SAYING "ONII-CHAN"!
DUN
I TOOK A TIP FROM KAZAMA-NIISAN'S BOOK AND HAVE TOTALLY CHANGED MY STYLE!
NOT ONLY IS HE POPULAR WITH THE GIRLS, HE'S STARTING FASHION TRENDS?! PLUS THAT'S NOT EVEN A BUZZ-CUT, YOU'RE JUST BALD!

UNDER-STAND WHAT ?!
SO YOU DO UNDER-STAND.
WELL, WELL!

UM...
THAT KAZAMA-ONIISAN IS MORE THAN JUST HIS HAIR.

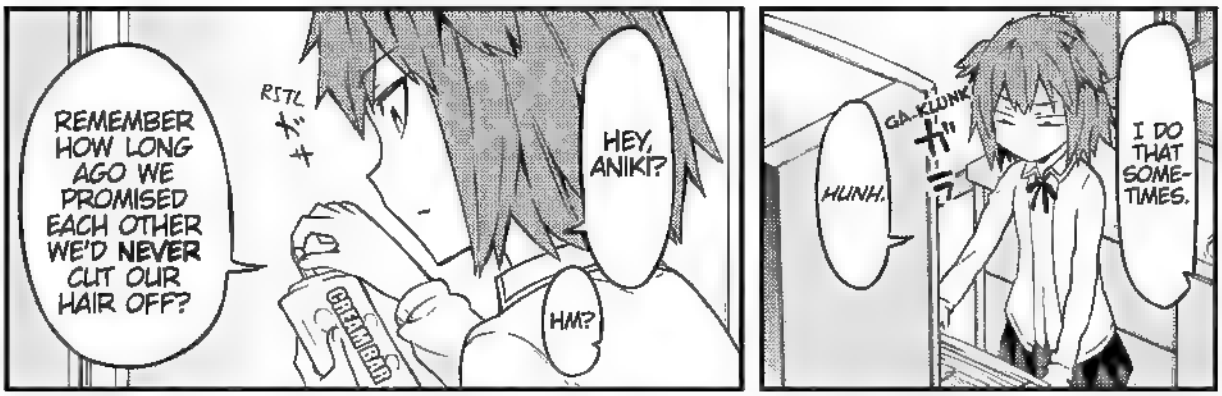
KNOCK IT OFF!!
BLURRRRR~
UM...
YEAH. HE'S UH...
EX-ACT-LY.
RIGHT! KAZAMA-SEMPAI ISN'T JUST HIS HAIRCUT!

I KNOW YOU'RE UPSET ABOUT HIM CUTTING OFF HIS HAIR...


RIGHT...

BUT RELAX! KNOWING HIM, IT'LL GROW BACK TO ITS NORMAL LENGTH IN NO TIME!

I'M HOME.
WELCOME BACK.
HUH?
YOU'RE HOME EARLY TODAY, ANIKI.


I DO THAT SOMETIMES.
GA-KLUNK
HUNH.
HEY, ANIKI?
HM?
REMEMBER HOW LONG AGO WE PROMISED EACH OTHER WE'D NEVER CUT OUR HAIR OFF?

OH YEAH. I FORGOT ABOUT THAT.

Is that why you've been in such a bad mood lately? Because I got a buzz cut?
H-Huh?! Wh-Why would I get so upset over that?! D-Don't be stupid!!

D-FRAGMENTS
ディーフラグメンツ!

I CAN'T BELIEVE I FORGOT MY PHONE IN MY CLASS-ROOM...
AND ON A FRIDAY NO LESS!

Chapter 1
How Strange!
IT'S OKAY. I HAD NO OTHER PLANS.
S-SORRY TO DRAG YOU ALONG WITH ME.

DOESN'T SOME-THING LIKE THIS SCARE YOU?!
WHAT?! THAT?!

BUT WHY DID YOU WANT SOME-ONE TO COME WITH YOU?
WITH YOUR POWER, A ROVING DELINQUENT OR TWO SHOULD POSE NO THREAT AT ALL.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN MY "POWER"?!

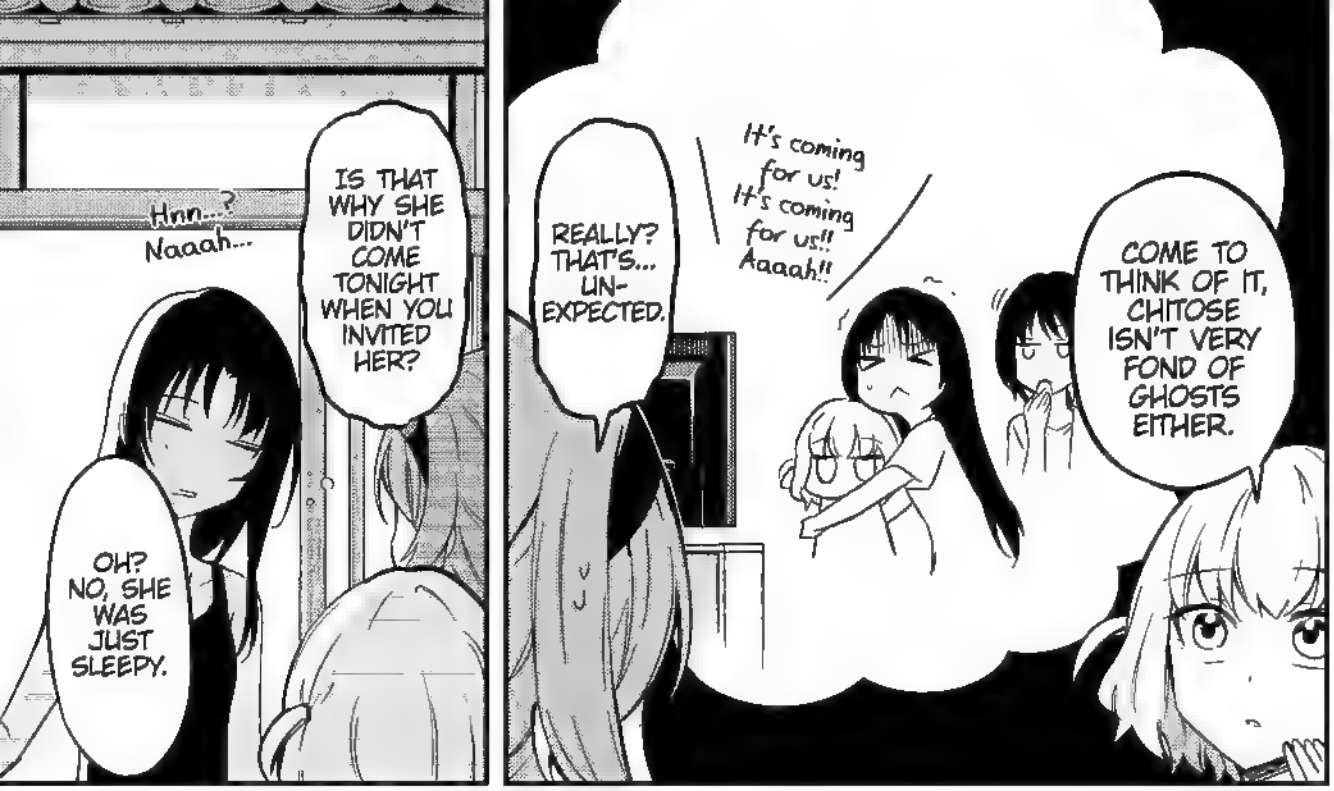
A MASTER OF THE PRAYING MANTIS MARTIAL ARTS STYLE?!
YES, THAT WOULD BE FRIGHT-ENING!
NO, NOT THAT !!

THOUGH MY MOM DID SAY THAT PRAYING MANTIS MARTIAL ARTS MASTERS ARE SCARY.
Hy, he was certainly a tough opponent
ANYWAY!! I'M TALKING ABOUT GHOSTS!
YOUR MOTHER HAS ALREADY FACED ONE?!
HUH? I DIDN'T SAY THAT... THOUGH YEAH, SHE HAS FOUGHT ONE.

AREN'T YOU AFRAID OF THEM?
AS I'VE NEVER SEEN ONE, I CAN'T SAY FOR SURE.
OH...

GHOSTS? REALLY?
Seriously?
HEY!

THE BEST WAY TO FIGHT A PRAYING MANTIS MASTER IS THROUGH TIGER FIST, DON'T YOU AGREE?
RAAAWR!
DON'T ASK ME! BUT ENOUGH OF THAT! I MEANT GHOSTS! GHOSTS!!


Hnn...?
Naaah...
IS THAT WHY SHE DIDN'T COME TONIGHT WHEN YOU INVITED HER?
OH? NO, SHE WAS JUST SLEEPY.
It's coming for us! It's coming for us!! Aaaah!!
REALLY? THAT'S... UN-EXPECTED.
COME TO THINK OF IT, CHITOSE ISN'T VERY FOND OF GHOSTS EITHER.

WH-WHAT?! WHAT'S WITH THAT INTENSE LOOK?!
DWAH?!
BY THE WAY, TAKAO-SAN...

YOU AND YOUR... YOUR BOOB-SHELF!
"BOOB-SHELF"?!
RIGHT NOW THE ONLY THING THAT SCARES ME IS YOU!

IT'S RATHER DISTRACT-ING!
HUH? OH, BUT IT WAS IN THE WAY WHEN I WANTED TO GESTURE...
WOULD YOU PLEASE TAKE THAT FLASHLIGHT OFF YOUR, AH... CHEST?

Boob-
shelf...
HM?

GULP...
SEEING IT REMINDS ME...
TAKAO-SAN, HAVE YOU HEARD OF THE SEVEN MYSTERIES OF FUJOU ACADEMY?
WHY DO YOU HAVE TO BRING THAT UP NOW?!

Science Lab
AH. WE'VE COME TO THE SCIENCE LAB.
YEAH?

Sorry, folks! Nothing to see here!
FUJOU ACADEMY MYSTERY #1! THE SCIENCE LAB YOU WOULD THINK HAS A SCARY STORY BUT ACTUALLY DOES NOT!!
WELL, I CERTAINLY DIDN'T EXPECT THAT!!

N-N-N-NO, I-I HAVEN'T HEARD...
HE HE HE HE. THEN LET ME TELL YOU.

IT DOESN'T EXIST?!
HOW CAN IT BE A MYSTERY THEN?!
IT SEEMS LIKE THERE WOULD DEFINITELY BE ONE... YET THERE ISN'T.
THAT MAKES IT A MYSTERY.
RIGHT FROM #1 THESE THINGS DON'T EXIST! THERE JUST ISN'T ANY MYSTERY TO THIS SCHOOL!
THEY DO EXIST! DON'T BE RUDE.

Oops! Double copies!
OH. BY THE WAY, OUR CLUB HAS BEEN DISPOSING OF OUR COPIES OF I LOVE THERE FOR THE PAST FEW MONTHS BY LEAVING THEM IN THE CAFETERIA.
SO IT'S YOUR CLUB THAT'S BEEN DOING THAT!!

FUJOU ACADEMY MYSTERY #2!! ISSUES OF THE MANGA ANTHOLOGY I LOVE HAVE BEEN SHOWING UP IN THE CAFETERIA SINCE THE MAGAZINE'S FOUNDING!!
For real?!
What?! The last chapter of Maria Holic?!
SOMEONE HAS BEEN PUTTING THEM IN THE CAFETERIA FOR EIGHT YEARS?!
4-PANEL COMICS!
I LOVE
I LOVE
GYHN!!

FUJOU ACADEMY MYSTERY #3!! STRANGELY, ALMOST ALL STUDENTS REPORT HEARING VOICES INSIDE THE SCHOOL! VOICES SHOUTING COMEBACKS!
How did that happen?!
See!! Told'ja it wouldn't work!!
HUH? UH, ISN'T IT PRETTY OBVIOUS WHO'S BEHIND THAT?

YOU HAVE ALSO BEEN QUITE SNAPPY WITH THE COMEBACKS LATELY, TAKAO-SAN.

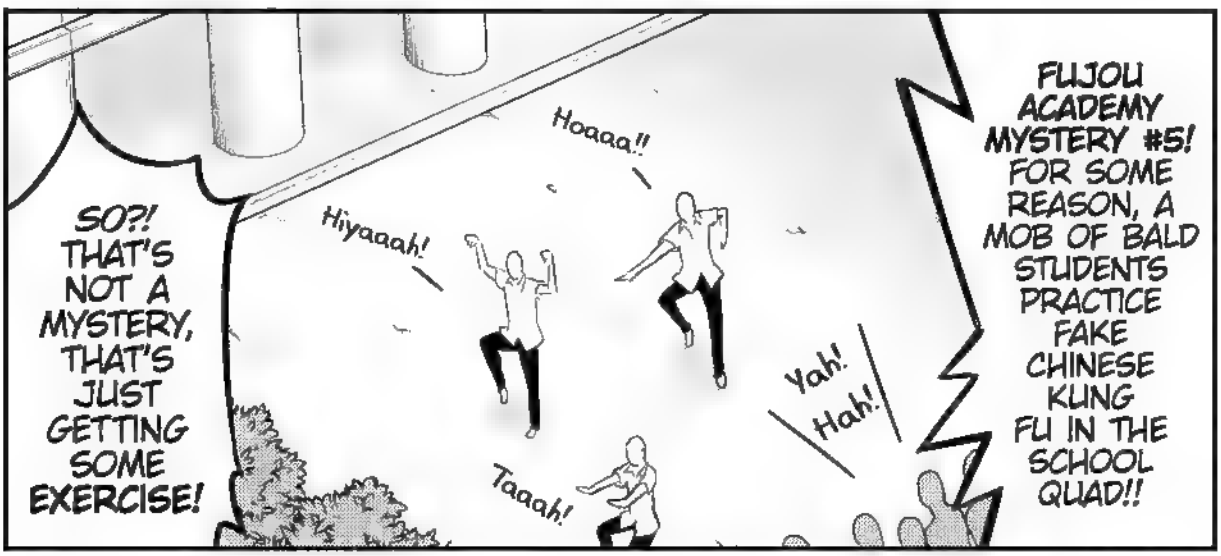
ANYWAY, LET'S GO.
WAIT, TAKAO-SAN!
H-HEY, DON'T LUMP ME IN WITH HIM OR ANYTHING... IT'S NOT LIKE I CARE...
FIDGET
FIDGET
HM? COULD HAVE FOOLED ME.
AND DID I JUST MAKE A COME-BACK? HOW STRANGE!

I WAS JUST GETTING STARTED! THE REMAINING MYSTERIES ON THE LIST ARE THE REALLY AMAZING ONES!
ヨーカン!
Don't go!
WHY DO YOU CARE SO MUCH?

キャアアア
YEEEEK!
I DO REMEMBER SOMEONE SAYING SOMETHING ABOUT GETTING TRAPPED IN A MIRROR...
OH, IT'S NOTHING AS EXCITING AS THAT.

MYSTERY #4 INVOLVES THE SCHOOL'S MIRRORS.
THE MIRRORS? I THINK I'VE HEARD ABOUT THAT...

FUJOU HIGH MYSTERY #4! BALD STUDENTS STANDING IN FRONT OF THE MIRROR TO CHECK THEIR HAIR!!
Uh, excuse me?
Hm.
Hm?
I'm next.
THEY NEED TO STOP LOOKING IN THE MIRROR AND FACE REALITY!


FUJOU ACADEMY MYSTERY #5! FOR SOME REASON, A MOB OF BALD STUDENTS PRACTICE FAKE CHINESE KUNG FU IN THE SCHOOL QUAD!!
Hoaaa!!
Hiyaaah!
Yah! Hah!
Taaah!
SO?! THAT'S NOT A MYSTERY, THAT'S JUST GETTING SOME EXERCISE!

FUJOU HIGH MYSTERY #6!! NO ONE KNOWS WHY... BUT LOTS OF BALD STUDENTS FLOCK TO THIS SCHOOL!!
EVEN THOUGH WE DON'T EVEN HAVE A CHINESE MARTIAL ARTS CLUB!!

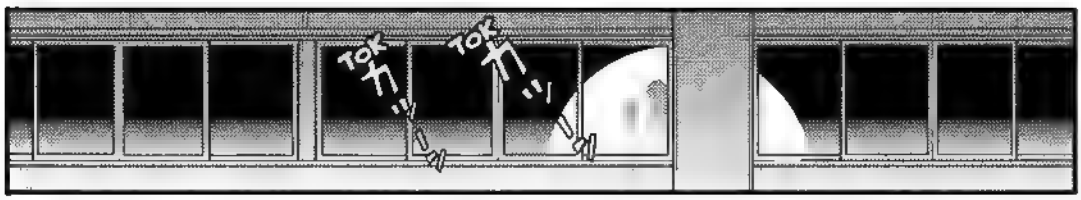
Really?!
WAIT A MINUTE! AT THIS RATE, MYSTERY #1--THE SPOOKY STORY THAT YOU'D THINK WOULD EXIST BUT DOESN'T--MAKES TOTAL SENSE!!
IT'S SUPPOSED TO BE A SCHOOL MYSTERY, BUT THERE ISN'T ANYTHING STRANGE OR MYSTERIOUS ABOUT IT!!
THAT'S TRUE. OUT OF ALL THE STORIES ABOUT THE SCHOOL, #1 THE ONLY ONE THAT STANDS OUT!
HOW STRAN-GE!!
ENOUGH ALREADY!

UGH! THANKS TO ALL THIS STUPID TALK I DON'T FEEL SCARED AT ALL ANYMORE!
C'MON! LET'S GO GET MY PHONE AND LEAVE!
AH! TAKAO-SAN, WAIT! WAIT!
WE'VE COME THIS FAR! LISTEN TO THE LAST ONE!

WHY?! IT'S JUST GOING TO BE BALD GUYS DOING SOME-THING AGAIN.
OH, BUT YOU CAN'T KNOW THAT FOR SURE!
FUJOU ACADEMY MYSTERY #7 IS THE MOST AMAZING OF THEM ALL!
I STILL DON'T CARE!
IT ALL BEGAN ONE DAY...

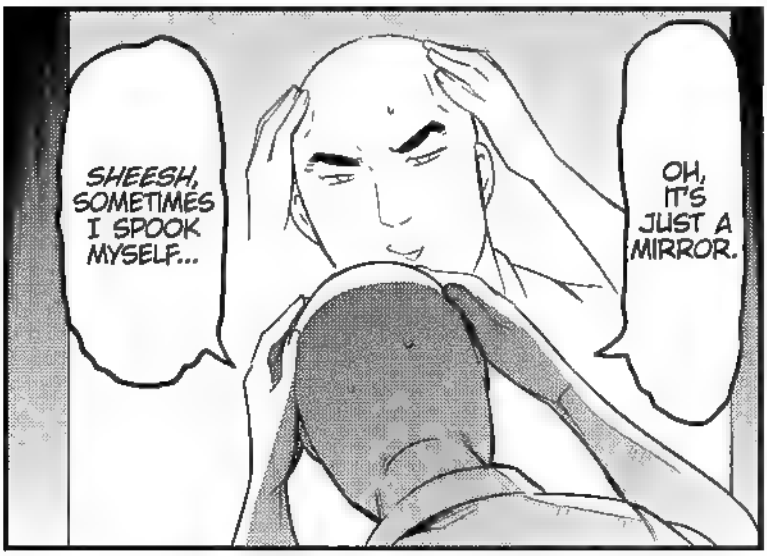
WHEN SHE FOUND IT, THE SCREEN SHOWED SHE HAD ONE UN-OPENED MESSAGE.
AND SO SHE HURRIED TO THE SCHOOL THAT NIGHT TO GET IT.
A YOUNG LADY HAD FORGOTTEN HER CELL PHONE IN HER CLASS-ROOM...
HUH ...?
DON'T LOOK.
BESET BY A FEELING OF DREAD, THE GIRL COULD NOT HELP BUT PICK UP HER PHONE AND UNLOCK IT...
DON'T BOTHER ...
IT'S JUST SPAM.
YEE-EEE-EEE-EEE-EEE-EEE-EEK!

OKAY, THAT WAS SCARY ...
BUT IT STILL HAD A BALD GUY!!
I'm almost 100% sure that's spam.
SAID A KIND, NAMELESS BALD CLASS-MATE!!
IN OTHER WORDS, FUJOU HIGH MYSTERY #7 IS THE STRANGE BALD GUY WHO STANDS BEHIND YOU AND TELLS YOU NOT TO BOTHER LOOKING AT SPAM MAILS!!


TOK
TOK

YOU'RE TELLING ME!! WHY THE HECK DID YOU HAVE TO LEAVE A BOX OF FRIED RICE HERE?!
AND WHAT'S THAT? A PRAY-ING MANTIS GRAND MASTER ?!
MAN, WHY DO SCHOOLS HAVE TO BE SO FREAKY AFTER DARK?!
I HOPE WE DON'T SEE ANY OF THESE!

ANYWAY, WHEN YOU BRING A LUNCH TO SCHOOL, EAT IT! DON'T JUST LEAVE IT THERE!
BUT I JUST DIDN'T WANNA! I'M SICK OF FRIED RICE. I WAS IN THE MOOD FOR PASTA TODAY!
AND IF I LEFT THAT BOX OF FRIED RICE HERE, UNREFRIGERATED OVER THE WEEKEND, IT WOULD BE A DISASTER!
YEAH, BUT WHY DID I HAVE TO COME?


OH, IT'S JUST A MIRROR.
SHEESH, SOMETIMES I SPOOK MYSELF...

DWAAH!!
WH-WHAT IS IT?!

WHOA, WHOA, WHOA!! WHY'D YOU HAFTA BRING THAT UP NOW?!
I'VE NEVER HEARD OF 'EM!
SHVR
SHVR
HEH HEH HEH. THEN ALLOW ME TO ENLIGHTEN YOU. FIRST, FUJOU ACADEMY MYSTERY #1...

COME TO THINK OF IT, THIS MIRROR REMINDED ME...
JUST LIKE A LOT OF OTHER HIGH SCHOOLS, OUR SCHOOL HAS ITS OWN SEVEN MYSTERIES.

?!
BUT IT STILL HAD A BALD GUY!!
WH-WHAT?! OH NO!!
IT'S FUJOU ACADEMY MYSTERY #3: THE DISEMBODIED VOICE THAT SHOUTS COMEBACKS!!
OH GOD, WE'RE GONNA DIE!!
LET'S GET OUTTA HERE!
WAAAAAAAH!
I'M SORRY, FRIED RICE!!
WHY DOES THE GHOST HATE BALD GUYS?!
WHAT'S WRONG WITH BEING BALD?!
!!
I-IS THIS FUJOU ACADEMY MYSTERY #3...?!
LATER, BOTH GIRLS SUCCESSFULLY RETRIEVED TAKAO'S CELL PHONE AND LEFT WITHOUT ANY FURTHER INCIDENTS.

I am curious about that bald ghost...
No, we're leaving!!

D-FRAGMENTS
ディーフラグメンツ!

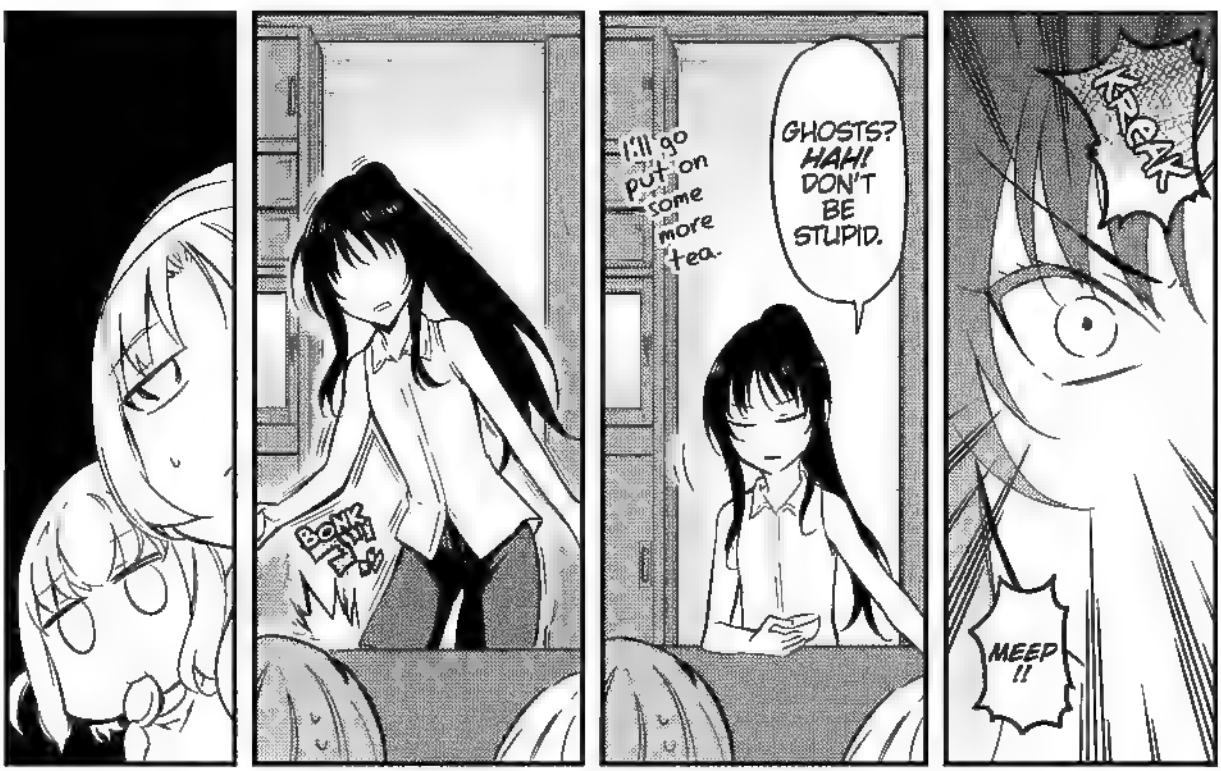
YOU HEARD A DISEMBODIED VOICE SHOUTING COMEBACKS? AT SCHOOL? IN THE NIGHTTIME?
LIKE IN FUJOU ACADEMY MYSTERY #3?
AND IT SAID, "WHAT'S WRONG WITH BEING BALD?"
ARE YOU SERI-OUS?
Chapter 69
We Won't Do It

H-HONEST! W-WE REALLY DID HEAR A VOICE!!
ガヤガヤ
ガヤガヤ
ガヤガヤ
THOUGH, THANKFULLY, WE GRABBED MY CELL PHONE AND GOT OUT ALL RIGHT.
WE WERE QUITE STARTLED, THOUGH!

ARE YOU SURE IT WASN'T KAZAMA?
YES, I'M SURE. AFTERWARDS, I CALLED HIM TO CHECK.
KAZAMA, WERE YOU AT SCHOOL SHOUTING COMEBACKS TONIGHT?
ガヤガヤ
ガヤガヤ
WHY THE HECK WOULD I DO THAT?!

NO, HE'S LYING. IT HAD TO BE HIM.
WHY ?!

CHITOSE IS TERRIFIED OF GHOSTS.
SHE'S JUST TRYING TO FIND A RATIONAL EXPLANATION BECAUSE SHE CAN'T HANDLE THE IDEA THAT THE COMEBACK GHOST EXISTS!
OH, OKAY...


GHOSTS? HAH! DON'T BE STUPID.
I'll go put on some more tea.
BONK
MEEP !!

WHAT ...?
HUH?! O-OH, UH, NOTHING...

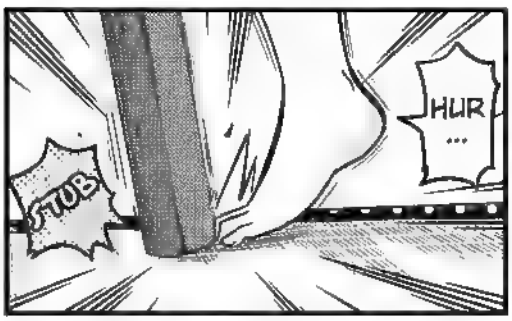
UM, ARE YOUR KNEES SHAKING FROM PAIN, OR FEAR?
SHAKE
SHAKE
SHAKE
SHAKE

COME NOW, YOU TWO. JUST LEAVE IT BE, OKAY?
AHA! ONEE-CHAN!
!!
OH, H-HELLO!

AND WHY DO I, ALL OF A SUDDEN, HAVE A CASE OF THE SHIVERS?
IS THERE A GHOST HERE?!
SHAKE
YOU'RE NOT HELPING AT ALL!!

IT'S OKAY, DEAR. IT'S THE MIDDLE OF THE DAY, NOW. THE COMEBACK GHOST WON'T GET YOU.
BY THE WAY, WHAT IS THE "COMEBACK GHOST"?

NOOO, ONEE-CHAN! SH-SHIVERS BAD! SHIVERS BAD!
L-LET'S GO SIT IN THE SUN WHERE IT'S WARM, OKAY?!
IT'S OBVIOUS SHES JUST WANTS TO SIT IN THE LIGHT HERSELF!
CAN'T WE JUST TURN ON A LAMP? OR SOME-THING?

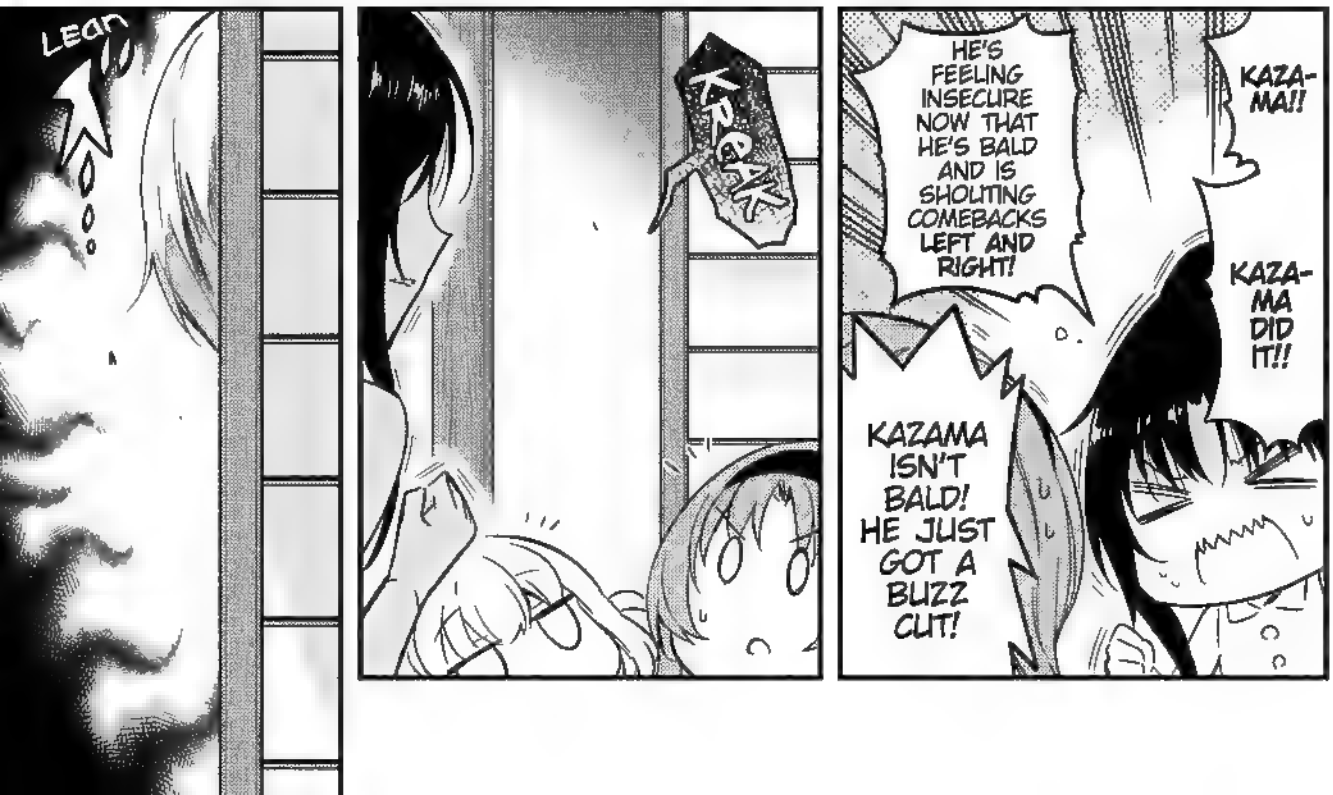

HUR ...
TUB

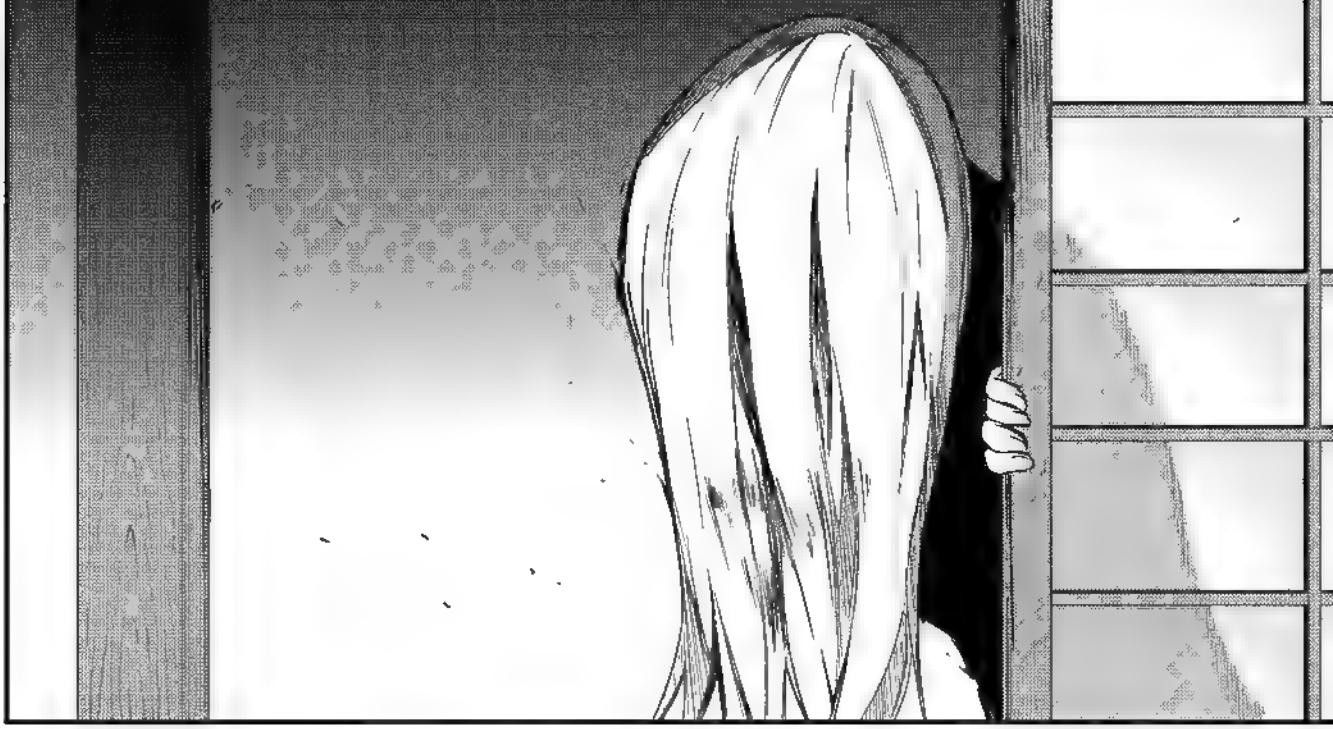
TUG TUG TUG
HURRY HURRY H-H-H-HURRY!
C'MON! HURRY!

Hfff... Hfff...
SO, SHE CAN TOUGH OUT THE PAIN OF A STUBBED TOE AND A BANGED KNEE, BUT CAN'T STAND THE THOUGHT OF GHOSTS?!

Oh yes. Chitose is the Student Council President, isn't she?
WHA ?!
BUT WE CAME TO VISIT TODAY BECAUSE WE WANTED TO ASK FOR YOUR HELP AS STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT IN DEALING WITH THAT PROBLEM.
UM, I FEEL BAD ASKING THIS...

UH...NO. WE WERE THINKING MORE ALONG THE LINES OF YOU BRINGING THIS UP WITH THE FACULTY FOR HELP OR RECRUITING VOLUNTEERS TO LOOK INTO IT. THAT KIND OF STUFF.
HOLD ON! IF YOU THINK THE STUDENT COUNCIL HAS THE POWER TO BANISH GHOSTS, YOU'VE GOT THE TOTALLY WRONG IDEA!


LEAN
KRAK
HE'S FEELING INSECURE NOW THAT HE'S BALD AND IS SHOUTING COMEBACKS LEFT AND RIGHT!
KAZA-MA!!
KAZA-MA DID IT!!
KAZAMA ISN'T BALD! HE JUST GOT A BUZZ CUT!



BONK
CHI-CHAN!
CHI-TOSE!

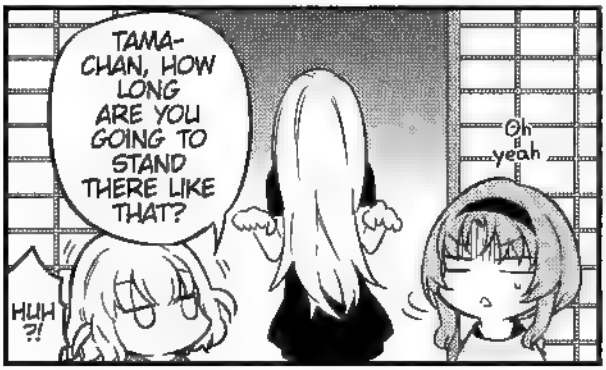
I LOVE

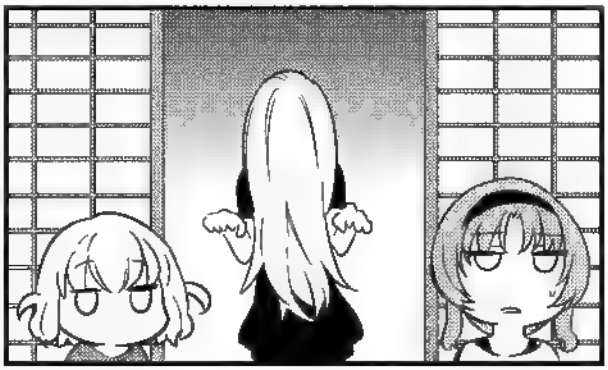
SLIP...

TOTTER...

ROLL
ROLL
ROLL

SPIRIT, BEGONE! BE GONE, FOUL GHOST!!
AND SHE'S STILL MORE WORRIED ABOUT THE "GHOST" THAN HER OWN PAIN?!


TAMA-CHAN, HOW LONG ARE YOU GOING TO STAND THERE LIKE THAT?
HUH ?!
Oh yeah



YOU GOT ME!

I CAN'T BELIEVE SHE, LIKE, STILL FALLS FOR THAT TRICK.
"STILL" ?!

THOD
Chi-chan fainted
I JOINED IN THE FUN ONCE MYSELF.
WHY WERE YOU DOING IT TO YOUR SISTER?! YOU KNOW HOW MUCH IT FREAKS HER OUT!
Oooo! I'm a blond ghoooost!
Oooooo! I'm a white haired ghoooost!
YEAH. I'VE BEEN DOING THAT TO HER FOR, LIKE, THE LAST TEN YEARS.
SHE'S SO SCARED OF GHOSTS SHE STILL FALLS FOR IT EVERY TIME?!
WOOOO!!

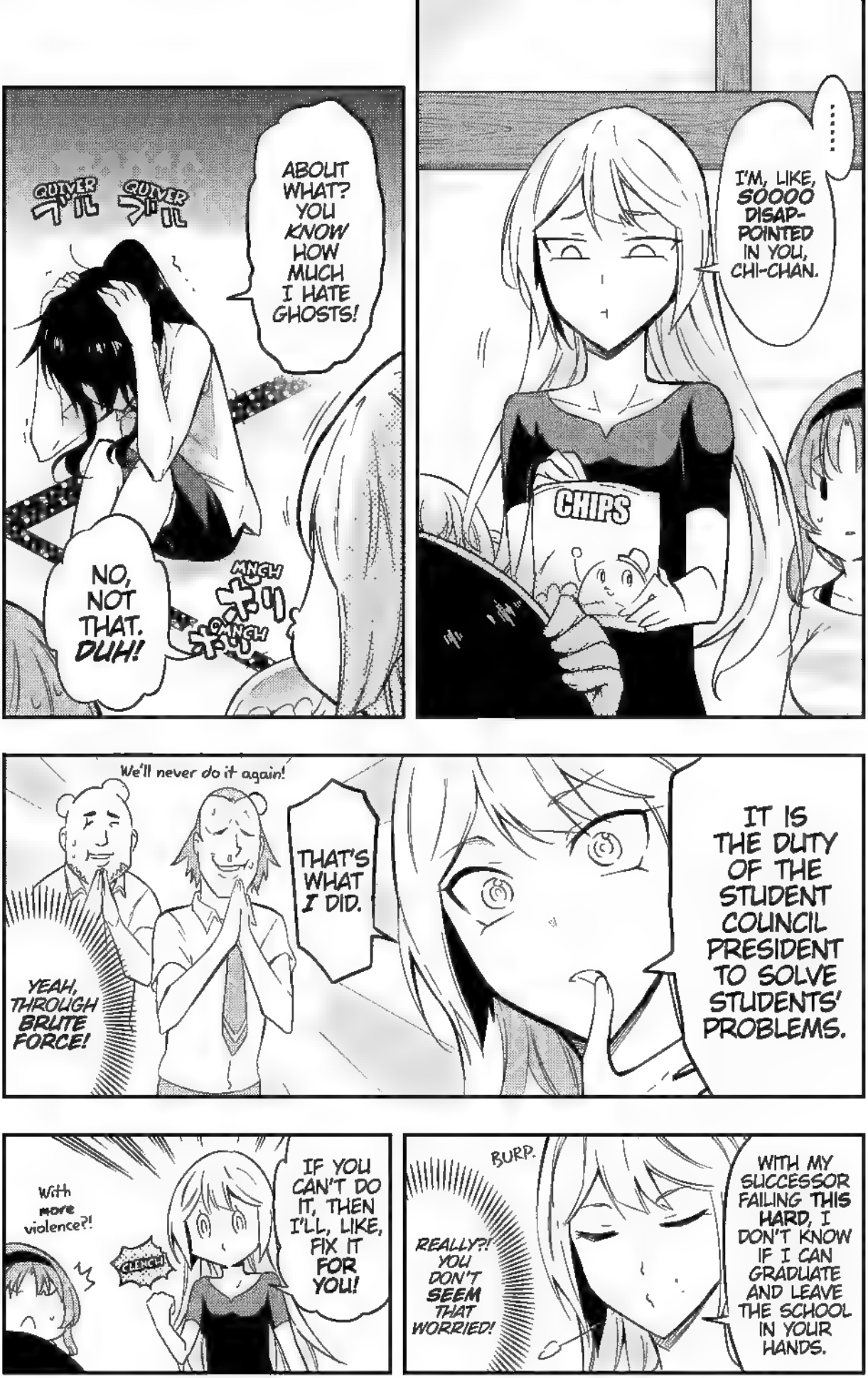
?!
YOU'RE HORRIBLE!
Yes. We're blond and white haired
Hm? Black-haired ghost? I dunno
Ah. She's up
AND THAT PRETTY MUCH CEMENTED CHI-CHAN'S FEAR OF GHOSTS!

I'M, LIKE, IN THE MOOD FOR SOMETHING CRUNCHY.
RIP
YOU CAN'T JUST TAKE THEIR FOOD!
CHIPS

SHWAK

PUMMAGE
PUMMAGE

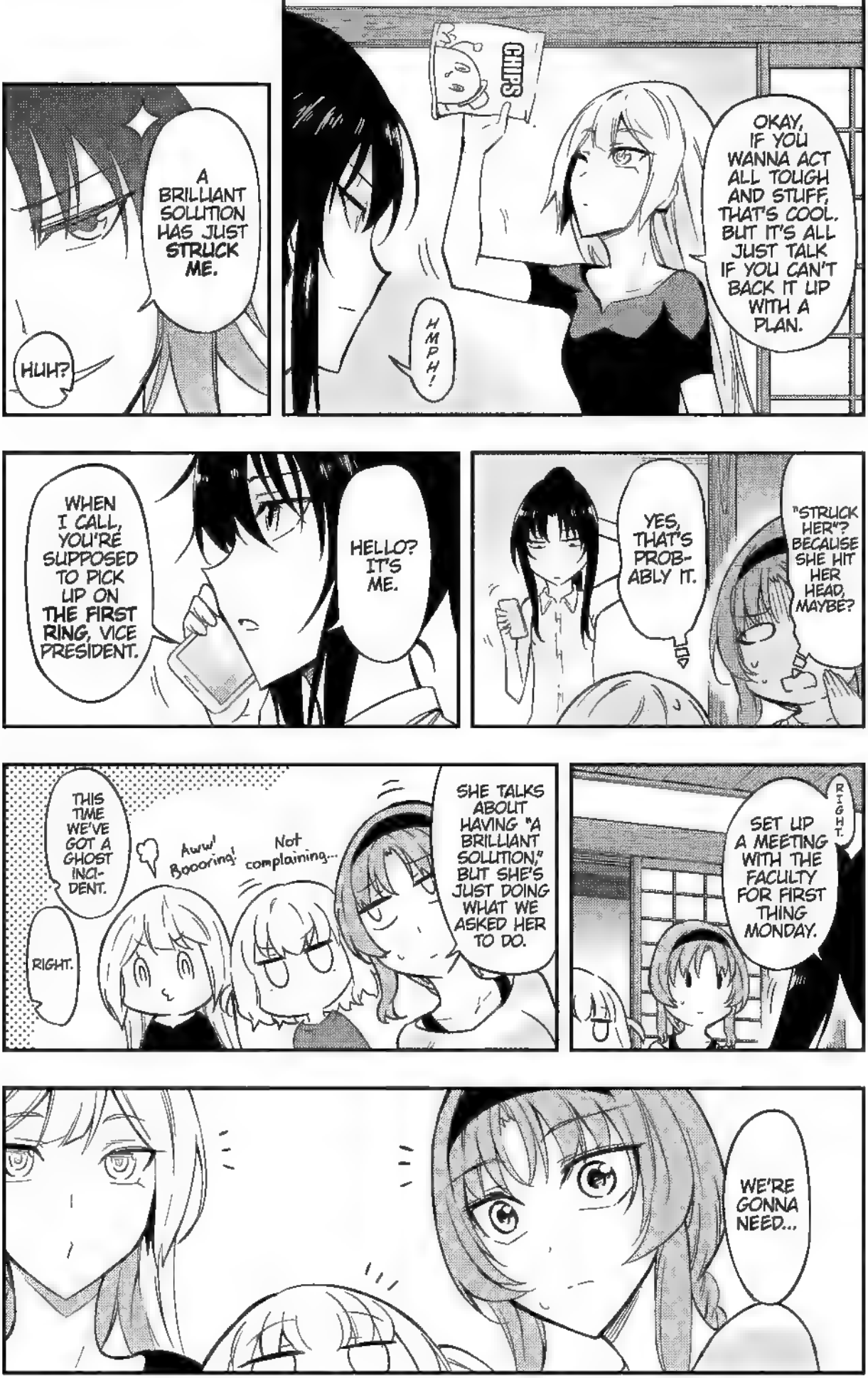
Hmmph..
Nnngh..
TAMA-CHAN, WOULD YOU LIKE SOME DUMP-LINGS?
WAIT, DOES SHE STILL NOT KNOW THE BLACK-HAIRED GHOST WAS YOU?


I'M, LIKE, SOOOO DISAP-POINTED IN YOU, CHI-CHAN.
.....
CHIPS
ABOUT WHAT? YOU KNOW HOW MUCH I HATE GHOSTS!
QUIVER
QUIVER
NO, NOT THAT. DUH!
MNCH
MNCH
IT IS THE DUTY OF THE STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT TO SOLVE STUDENTS' PROBLEMS.
THAT'S WHAT I DID.
We'll never do it again!
YEAH, THROUGH BRUTE FORCE!
IF YOU CAN'T DO IT, THEN I'LL, LIKE, FIX IT FOR YOU!
CLENCH
With more violence?!
WITH MY SUCCESSOR FAILING THIS HARD, I DON'T KNOW IF I CAN GRADUATE AND LEAVE THE SCHOOL IN YOUR HANDS.
BURP.
REALLY?! YOU DON'T SEEM THAT WORRIED!

THIS ISN'T ANY OF YOUR BUSI-NESS.
CHIPS
.....

I'M THE CURRENT STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT.

I DID JAM MY TOE AND BANG MY KNEECAP! GIMME A BREAK!
ARE YOU SURE YOU'RE NOT SCARED ?!
UHH ...
PRESI-DENT!!


OKAY, IF YOU WANNA ACT ALL TOUGH AND STUFF, THAT'S COOL. BUT IT'S ALL JUST TALK IF YOU CAN'T BACK IT UP WITH A PLAN.
CHIPS
HMPH!
A BRILLIANT SOLUTION HAS JUST STRUCK ME.
HUH?
HELLO? IT'S ME.
WHEN I CALL, YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO PICK UP ON THE FIRST RING, VICE PRESIDENT.
"STRUCK HER"? BECAUSE SHE HIT HER HEAD, MAYBE?
YES, THAT'S PROBABLY IT.
SHE TALKS ABOUT HAVING "A BRILLIANT SOLUTION," BUT SHE'S JUST DOING WHAT WE ASKED HER TO DO.
Not complaining...
Aww! Boooring!
THIS TIME WE'VE GOT A GHOST INCIDENT.
RIGHT.
SET UP A MEETING WITH THE FACULTY FOR FIRST THING MONDAY.
RIGHT.
WE'RE GONNA NEED...

A GHOST BUSTING CLUB!!

A GHOST BUSTING CLUB?!
WHAAA...?

REALLY?!
NOT BAD.

YOU'VE GOT VERY LOW STAND-ARDS WHEN IT COMES TO "GENIUS"!
CHI-CHAN, YOU'RE A GENIUS...

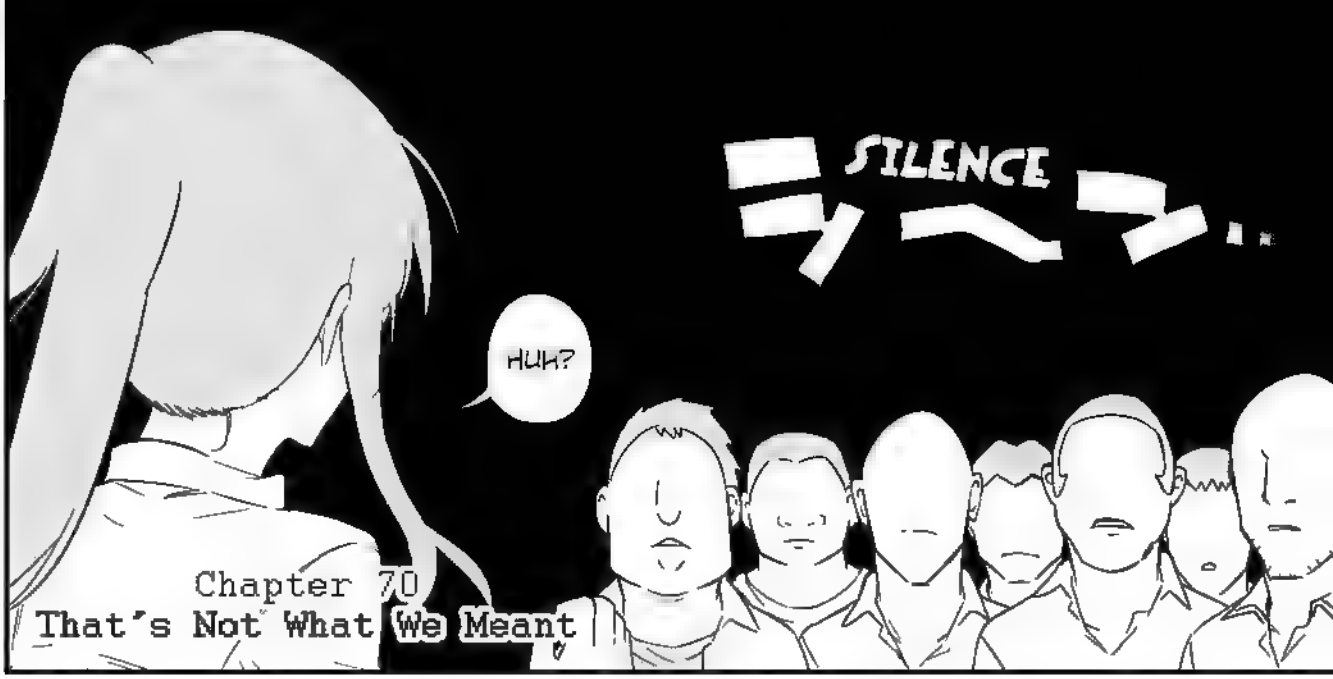
YOU AGREE WITH HER?!
THAT IS BRIL-LIANT!!

FOR REAL?!
Really?!
LET'S DO IT!

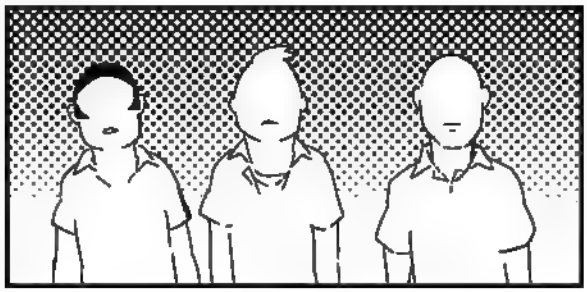
Have every-thing ready by tomor-row.
Are you serious?!
Prez

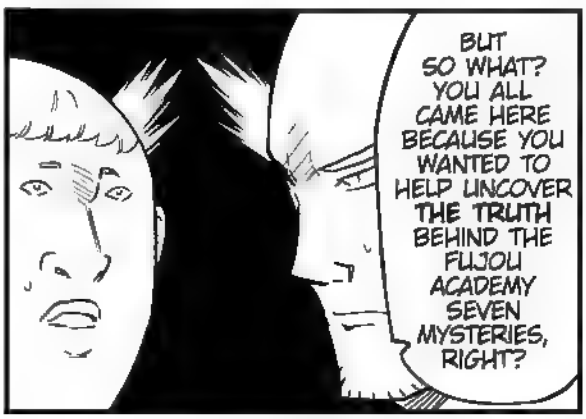
D-FRAGMENTS
ディーフラグメンツ!

THANKS FOR COMING HERE TODAY.
RIGHT.
HII HII DU-DUN
DUN HII
WHAT? ALL THESE PEOPLE WANT TO JOIN THE CLUB? REALLY?!
WOOOOOO!
WE WILL NOW BEGIN TRYOUTS FOR THE BRAND NEW GHOST BUSTING CLUB!
ANYWAY! LET'S BEGIN THE APPLICATION EXAM!
Yeah, you're acting too much.
IT'S UNFORTUNATE, BUT AFTER A LONG NEGOTIATION SESSION WITH THE FACULTY...
THIS IS THE BEST MY WORTHLESS VICE PRESIDENT COULD MANAGE!
HUFF! HUFF
THOUGH WE CALL IT A "CLUB," IT IS NOT A FULLY RECOGNIZED SCHOOL SOCIETY. IT IS MORE LIKE A VOLUNTEER SERVICE PEOPLE CAN TAKE PART IN.



Chapter 70
That's Not What We Meant




BUT SO WHAT? YOU ALL CAME HERE BECAUSE YOU WANTED TO HELP UNCOVER THE TRUTH BEHIND THE FUJOU ACADEMY SEVEN MYSTERIES, RIGHT?

YES. THOUGH THE "CLUB" PART DIDN'T PAN OUT, SO IT'S A GHOST BUSTING WATCH GROUP.
A MOMENT AGO YOU SAID THIS WAS GOING TO BE A GHOST BUSTING CLUB, CORRECT?

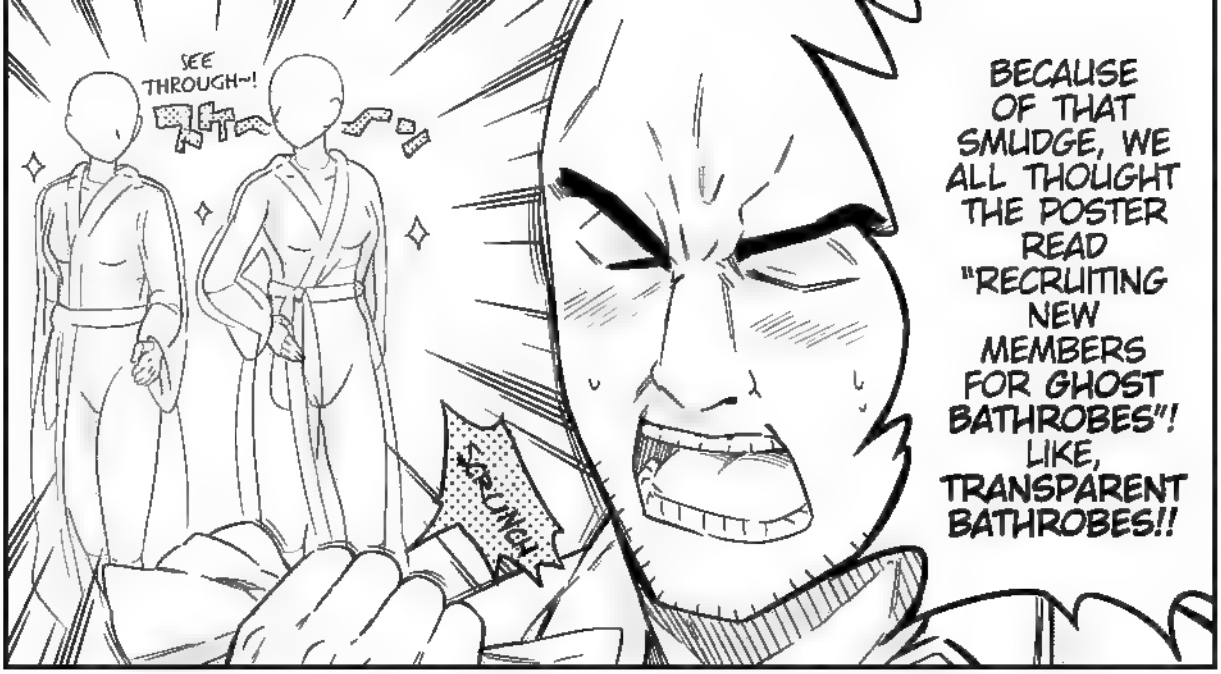
DO YOU MIND IF WE WITHDRAW OUR APPLICATIONS?
THAT'S NOT OUR MAIN ISSUE RIGHT NOW!
OH NO! WE ARE FINALLY FEELING THE EFFECTS OF KAZAMA-SAN'S ABSENCE!
W-WE'RE SUPPOSED TO HAVE A SNAPPY COMEBACK, RIGHT? LIKE "WHAT?! WHY?!" OR SOMETHING!
O-OH! RIGHT! WH-WHAT SHOULD I SAY?
FLAIL
JUST DROP IT!
SHOULD WE ALL TAKE TURNS? THAT WAY WE CAN, Y'KNOW, TAKE BREAKS AND CATCH OUR BREATH...
GULP
NO. I DON'T THINK ANYONE BUT THE KAZAMA SIBLINGS HAVE THE ENERGY AND STAMINA TO KEEP SNAPPING COMEBACKS FOR LONG PERIODS OF TIME.
What a pain! Count me out!
?
WHAT'S WITH THAT REACTION?! IF YOU THINK THAT'S A GOOD COMEBACK THEN ANYBODY CAN FILL IN FOR KAZAMA!!

WAIT, ARE YOU STICKING AROUND JUST TO HEAR MY COME-BACKS?
SHUT THE --!
BUT...
YEAH, IT IS PRETTY HOT...
OOOH!
DID YOU HEAR THAT? THE PREZ HAS BEEN ON POINT WITH COMEBACKS THIS WHOLE TIME. WHO KNEW SHE COULD BE SO SASSY?
I LIKE IT.

HE'S GOT GUTS!
DRAT! HE SPOKE UP FIRST!
OOOOH, HE'LL DO THE EXPLAIN-ING?
DUN
CALM DOWN, IT'S NOT THAT EXCITING.
ALLOW ME TO EXPLAIN.
AHEM.
WHY DID YOU WANT TO WITHDRAW YOUR APPLI-CATIONS ANYWAY?!

SMUSH!
Recruiting New Members for a Ghost Busting Club
THIS WAS THE POSTER WE ALL SAW.
OH?
THAT IS BECAUSE WE ALL MISREAD THE NAME FOR THE "GHOST BUSTER CLUB."
WHY DID WE ALL WANT TO WITHDRAW OUR APPLI-CATIONS?

IT IS!
DOESN'T THE WORD "BUSTING" LOOK A LITTLE SMUDGED TO YOU?
HUH? MAYBE A LITTLE ...?
LOOK CLOSELY.
OKAY. HOW DID YOU MISREAD ANY-THING ON THAT?
RABBL


SEE THROUGH~!
CRUNCH
BECAUSE OF THAT SMUDGE, WE ALL THOUGHT THE POSTER READ "RECRUITING NEW MEMBERS FOR GHOST BATHROBES"! LIKE, TRANSPARENT BATHROBES!!

WHAT?!
WHY?!

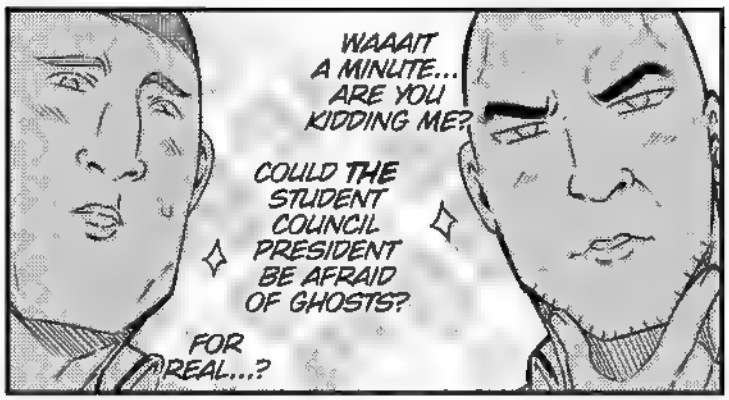
DON'T YOU THINK THAT'D BE KINDA HOT?
HEH HEH...
A CLUB FULL OF PEOPLE WEARING GHOST BATH-ROBES.

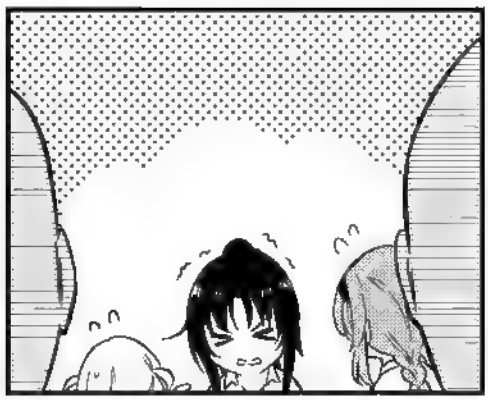
YOU ALL DID?!
Totally!
Yeah! It's hard to read it any other way!
You did, too?
REALLY?!

YEAH! YOU TELL 'EM!
A GHOST BUSTING CLUB IS WAY LESS REAL-ISTIC!!
DON'T GIVE ME THAT LOOK! ANY HEALTHY GUY OUR AGE WOULD MAKE THAT KIND OF MISTAKE!!

H-HEY!

TH-THEY'RE RIGHT! IT IS UN-REALISTIC! G-G-GHOSTS DON'T EVEN EXIST!
HUH ?!
THEN WHY DID YOU WANT TO FORM A CLUB TO BUST THEM?!


WAAAIT A MINUTE... ARE YOU KIDDING ME?
COULD THE STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT BE AFRAID OF GHOSTS?
FOR REAL...?



I HAVE FINALLY FOUND YOUR WEAK POINT!!
WHO WOULD HAVE EXPECTED OUR BALL-BUSTING STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT TO BE SCARED OF GHOSTS?!

MWA HA HA!
I SEE. SO THAT'S HOW THIS IS.
!!

Ooooo!! I'm a headless, blond ghost!
NOW'S MY CHANCE !!
HE SURE MOVED FAST!
HEY, UH, VICE PRESIDENT? MAYBE YOU SHOULD THINK THINGS THROUGH FIRST BEFORE MAKING A MOVE AGAINST THE PREZ?
DASH
I-I'M NOT SCARED.
UH-OH! THIS LOOKS SERIOUS!
SHE IS SCARED OF THEM!
REALLY SCARED!
WHAT?! IT'S ACTUALLY WORKING ?!
WAIT. COME TO THINK OF IT, WHERE IS KENJI?
I THINK HE WAS--
WATCH ME, KENJI! I'LL FINALLY DO IT!!
No! Use a rag!
Lick it up? Lick it up with my tongue, she says?!
NOW I WILL FINALLY HAVE REVENGE FOR ALL SHE'S PUT ME THROUGH!
Wipe that up.
Ngk!
I'VE BEEN PUSHED AROUND FOR TOO LONG!

HEY, LIKE, HOLD ON A SEC, ATARU-CHAN.
SMAK
WHAT'S THE FORMER PRESI-DENT-- DWAPH!!
WHAT DID YOU DO THAT FOR, TAMA-SEMPAI?!
AFTER I WORKED MYSELF TO THE BONE FOR YOU LAST YEAR, TOO! I WAS EVEN WILLING TO LICK FLOORS FOR YOU!
Leave it to me!
KOFF...
YEAH. YOU DID A LOT OF GOOD WORK FOR ME WHILE I WAS STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT, ATARU-CHAN.

NOW I WANT YOU TO KEEP UP THAT GOOD WORK...
FOR THE SAKE OF THE NEW STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT !!
!!

GIVE IT UP, MAN.
NO MATTER WHAT YOU DO, YOU'LL ALWAYS BE THE VICE PRESIDENT.
WH-WHAT ?! HEY!!

I AM DOING GOOD WORK!!
I NEARLY KILL MYSELF FROM WORKING TOO HARD!

THAT'S NOT WHAT WE MEANT.
ALL I WANTED WAS TO **PRETEND** TO BE A GHOST TO SCARE HER A LITTLE BIT!! IS THAT TOO MUCH TO ASK?!
YOU'RE RIGHT! IT'S ***HOPELESS!*** NO MATTER WHAT I DO, THE STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT ALWAYS SWOOPS IN AT THE LAST MINUTE AND CLAIMS THE GLORY FOR HERSELF!
IT'S NO UNDER-STATEMENT TO SAY THAT THE STUDENT COUNCIL ONLY WORKS RIGHT NOW BECAUSE YOU TWO **BALANCE** EACH OTHER OUT.
!!
YEAH. CONSIDERING HOW BRUTAL THE STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT CAN BE, HER VICE PRESIDENT HAS TO BE SOMEONE WHO CAN KEEP EVERYTHING UNDER CONTROL.
!!
WE ALL KNOW JUST HOW HARD YOU WORK, VICE PRESIDENT.
?!
ALL RIGHT, THEN. FOR THE SAKE OF THE STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT ...
THIS ONCE, I SHALL GIVE MY ALL. AFTER ALL, SHE CAN'T GET ANYTHING DONE WITHOUT ME!
AH...
SO PEOPLE *DO* NOTICE ALL THE WORK I DO.

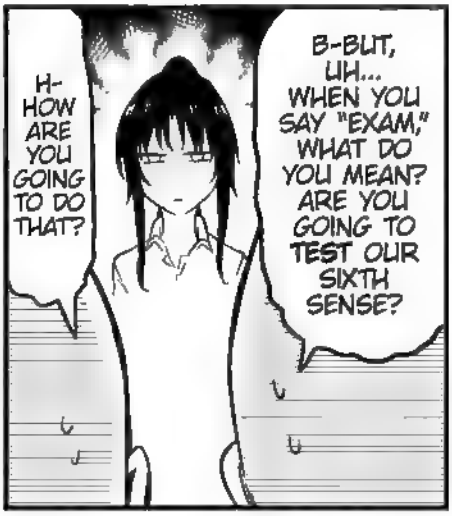
HUFF HUFF

BAM
AAAA-AAAH!! GET OUTTA HERE, GHOST!!
NOW I'VE BEEN HIT BY THE CURRENT PRESIDENT AND FORMER PRESIDENT IN ONE DAY!

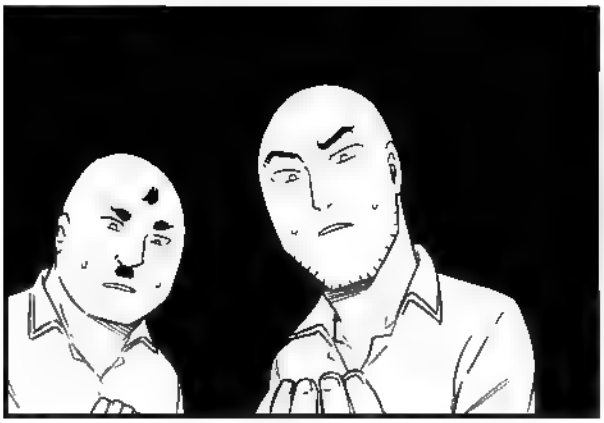
HUFF
NOW, TIME FOR THE EXAM.

Y-YES, MA'AM !!

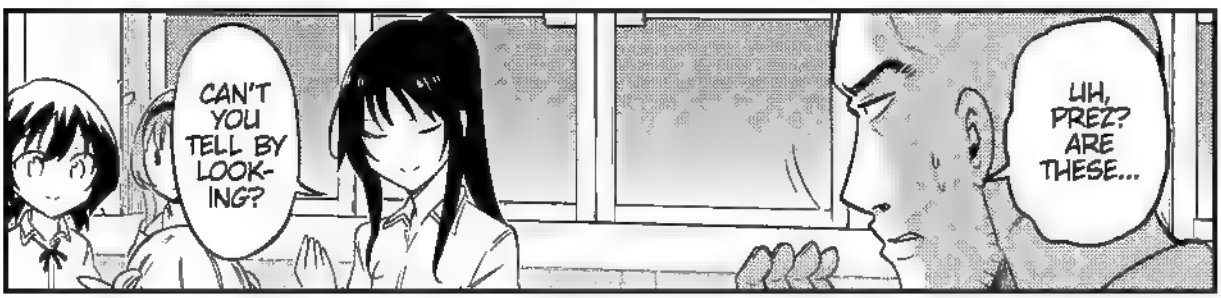
FUNA-BORI'S HERE?!
FUNABORI, HAND THEM OUT.
OH, YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT ANYTHING LIKE THAT.


H-HOW ARE YOU GOING TO DO THAT?
B-BUT, UH... WHEN YOU SAY "EXAM," WHAT DO YOU MEAN? ARE YOU GOING TO TEST OUR SIXTH SENSE?

WHAT? FOR ME? DID YOU MAKE THIS YOURSELF, FUNABORI?
Y-YES...
I'M SO GLAD I SHOWED UP! THIS ALONE MAKES IT WORTH IT.
HERE.
SO, UH... DO YOU WEAR BATH-ROBES, FUNA-BORI?
HM? NO, I PREFER PADDED KIMONOS...
THAT'S GOOD, TOO!

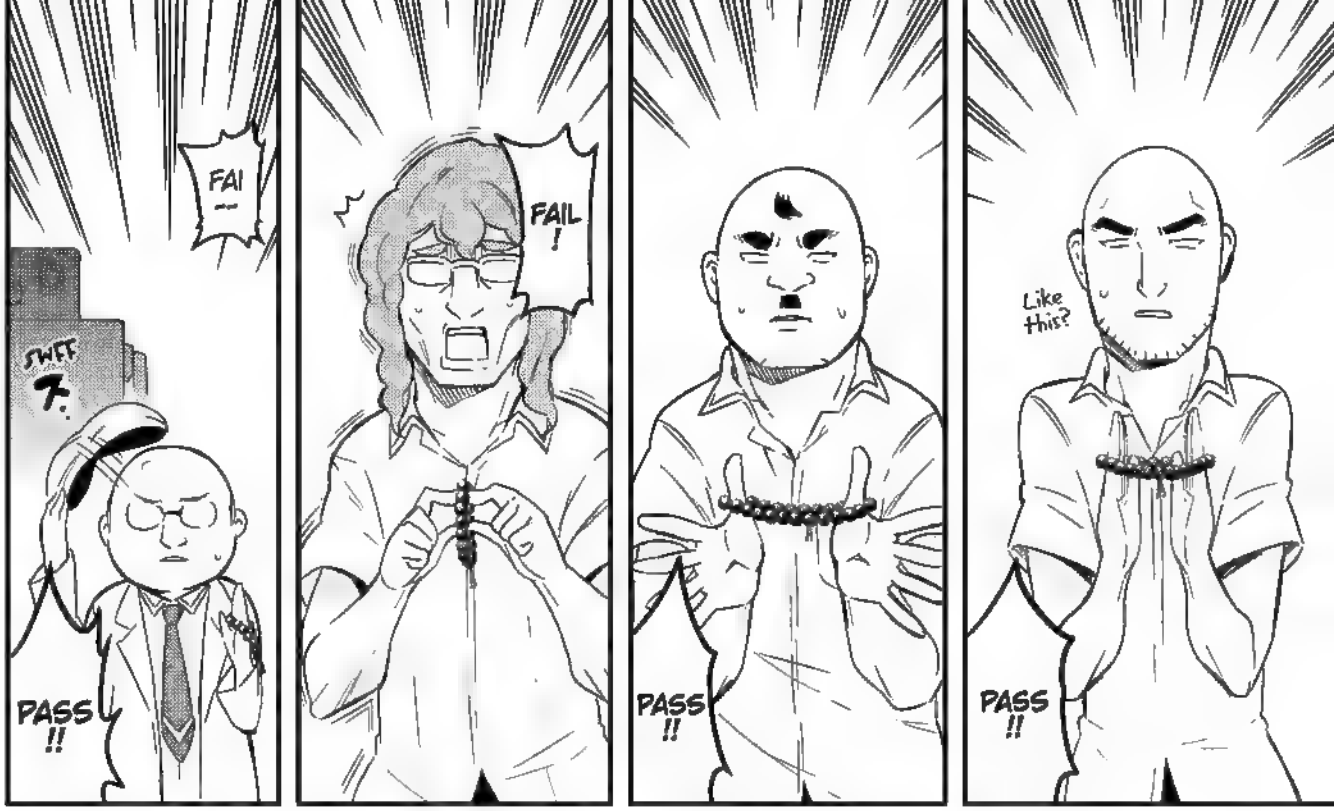


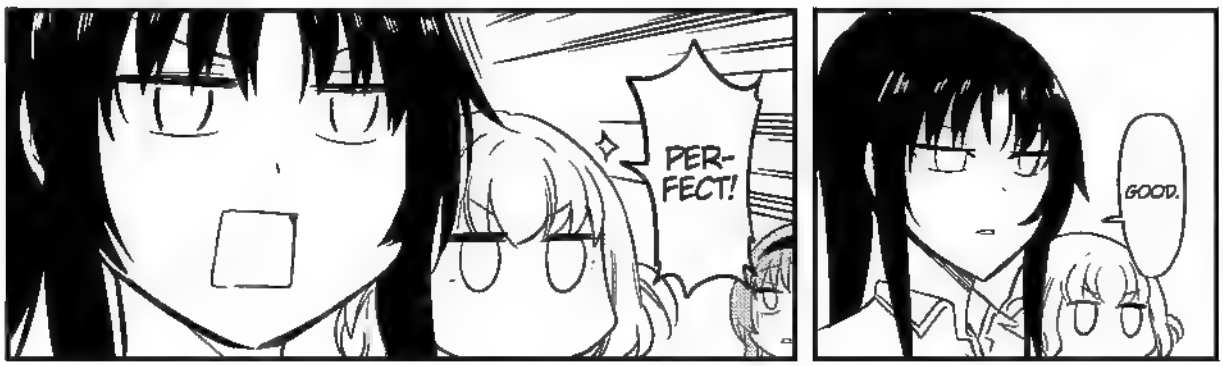
Funabori in a kimono!
EVERYONE GET ONE? GOOD.


UH, PREZ? ARE THESE...
CAN'T YOU TELL BY LOOK-ING?

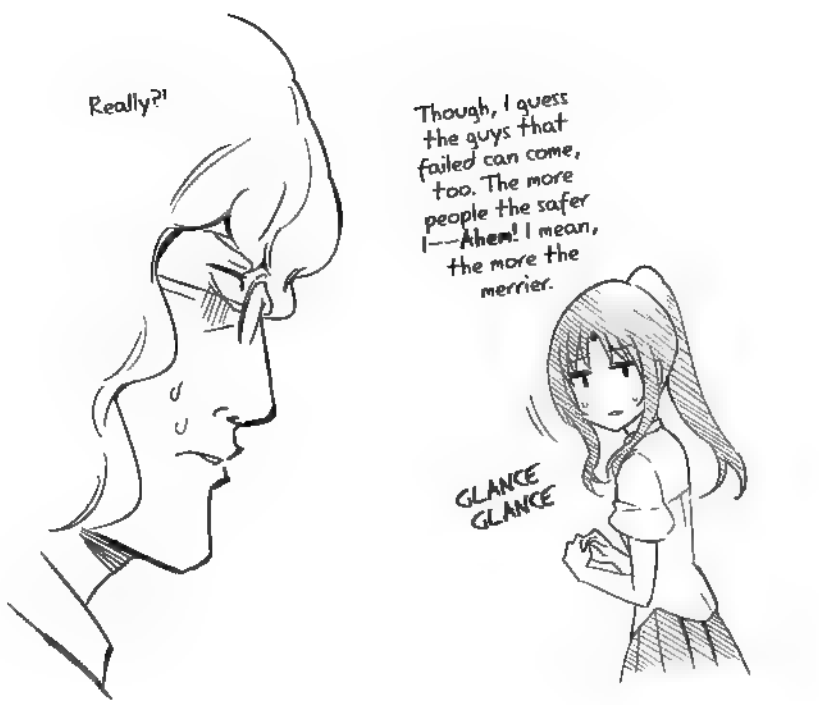
EVERY-ONE!
HOLD OUT YOUR PRAYER BEADS AND TAKE A STANCE!

THEY'RE PRAYER BEADS.
CHK...

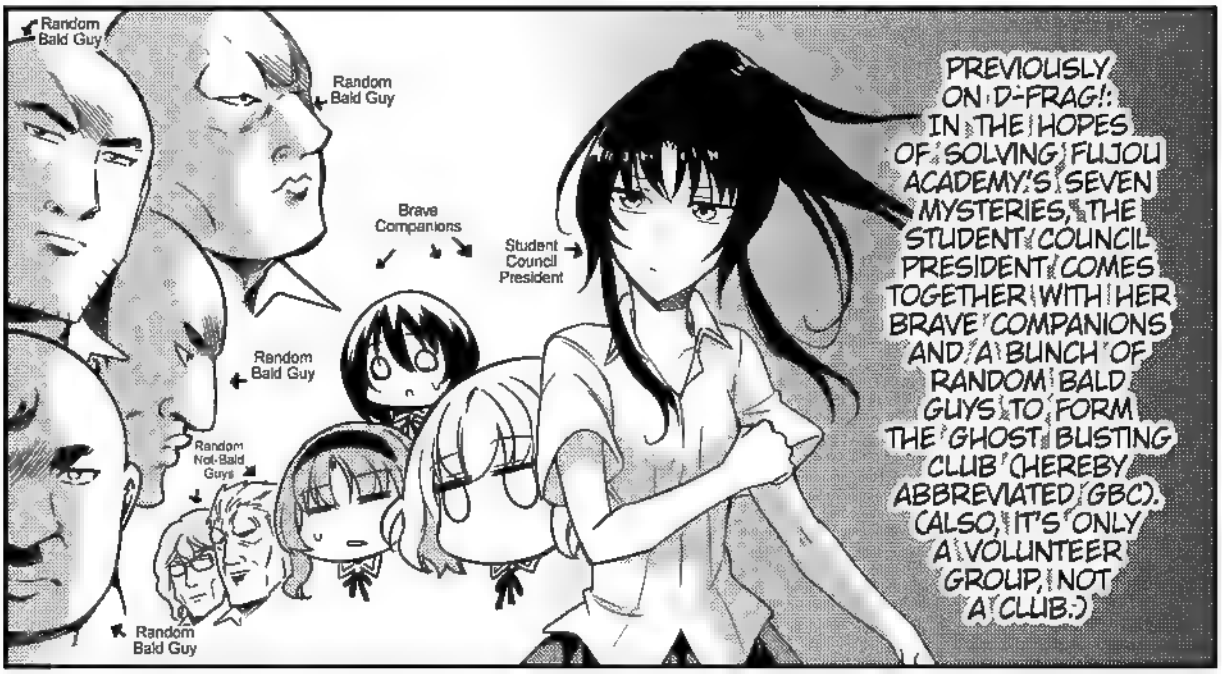

FAI—
SWFF
PASS!!
FAIL!
PASS!!
Like this?
PASS!!

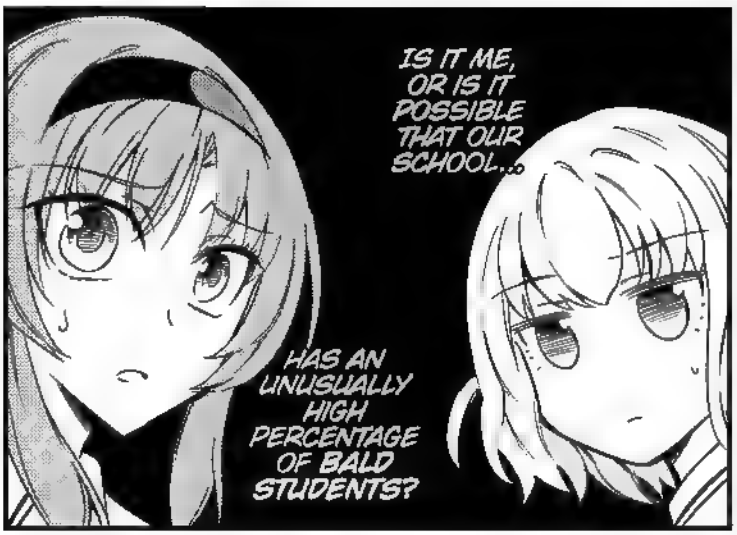

PER-FECT!
GOOD.

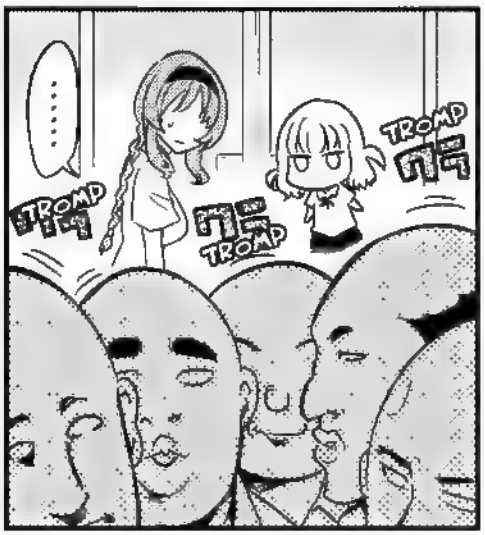
WITH THIS MANY GUYS WHO LOOK LIKE MONKS, WE'LL BUST THOSE GHOSTS FOR SURE!
THAT'S WHY WE PASSED ?!
LET'S GO, EVERYONE!!

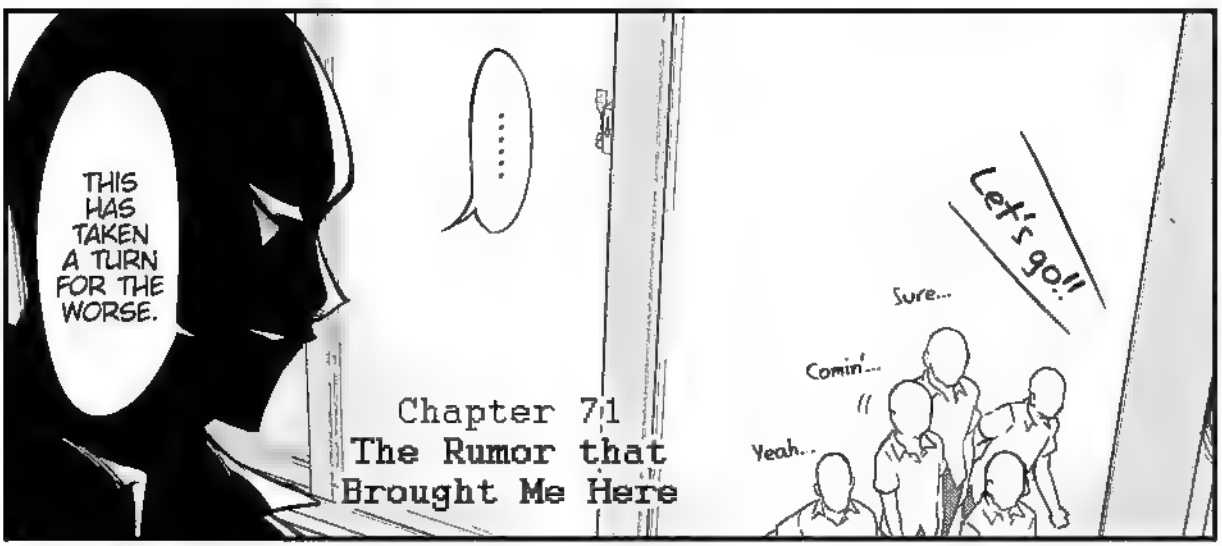

Really?!
Though, I guess the guys that failed can come, too. The more people the safer I—Ahem! I mean, the more the merrier.
GLANCE GLANCE

D-FRAGMENTS
ディーフラグメンツ!


Random Bald Guy
Random Bald Guy
Brave Companions
Student Council President
Random Bald Guy
Random Not-Bald Guys
Random Bald Guy
PREVIOUSLY ON D-FRAG!: IN THE HOPES OF SOLVING FUJOU ACADEMY'S SEVEN MYSTERIES, THE STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT COMES TOGETHER WITH HER BRAVE COMPANIONS AND A BUNCH OF RANDOM BALD GUYS TO FORM THE GHOST Bbusting CLUB (HEREBY ABBREVIATED GBC). (ALSO, IT'S ONLY A VOLUNTEER GROUP, NOT A CLUB.)

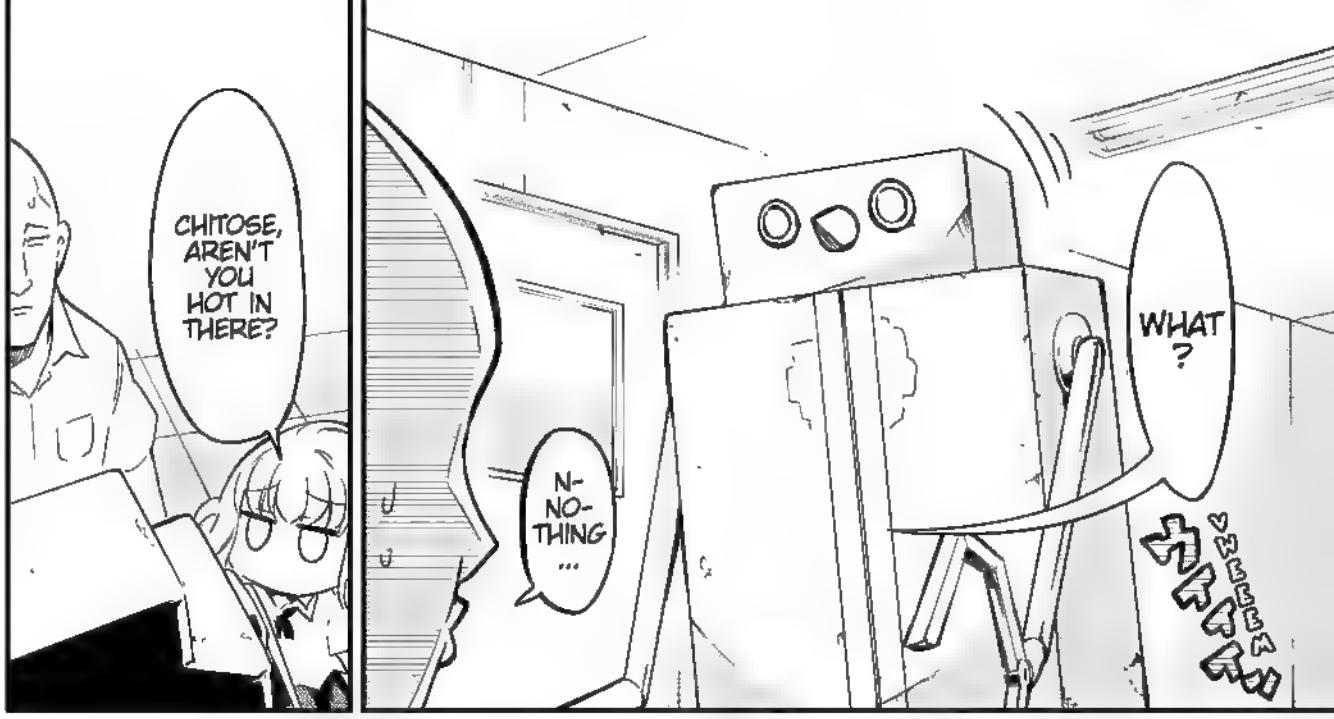

IS IT ME, OR IS IT POSSIBLE THAT OUR SCHOOL...
HAS AN UNUSUALLY HIGH PERCENTAGE OF BALD STUDENTS?

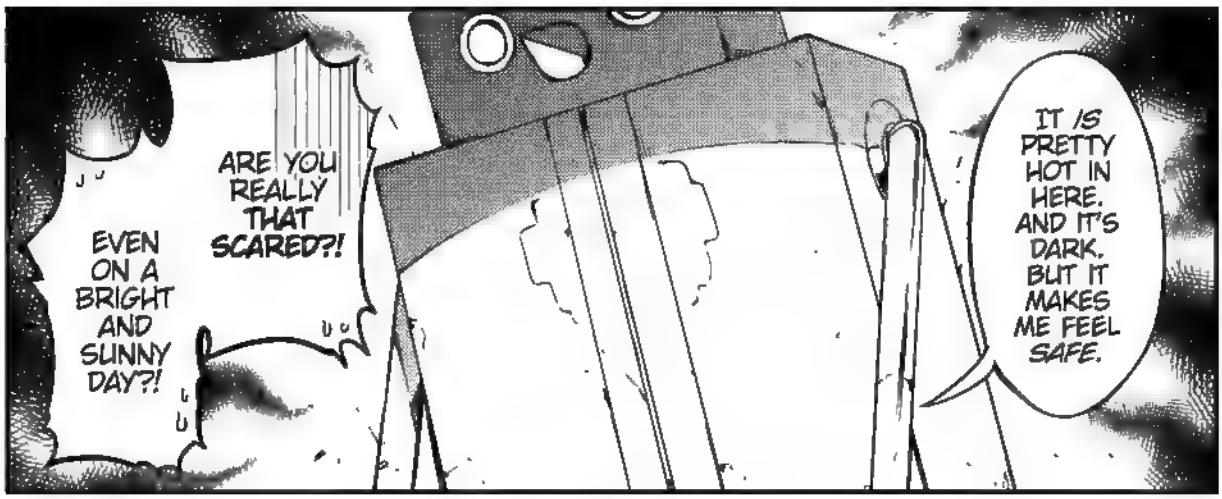

TROMP
TROMP
TROMP
TROMP


THIS HAS TAKEN A TURN FOR THE WORSE.
Let's go!!
Sure...
Comin'...
Yeah...
Chapter 7.1
The Rumor that Brought Me Here

WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO ABOUT THIS?
WE CAN'T LET THEM **STUMBLE** ONTO OUR OPERATIONS AND DISCOVER OUR **SECRET PLAN.**
ALL RIGHT !!
ONE OF OUR OWN HAS ALREADY INFILTRATED THE GBC (*WHICH SHOULD BE THE GBWG*). IF THEY GET CLOSE OUR SPY WILL LET US KNOW!
HEH. THERE'S NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT.

HEH HEH! WE GOT THIS!
MEW MEW MEW MEW
TROMP
TROMP
TROMP
ARE GHOSTS EVEN AWAKE AT THIS HOUR?
UH... IT'S THE MIDDLE OF THE DAY.
GLANCE
GLANCE
SQUEEKA SQUEEKA SQUEEKA SQUEEKA


CHITOSE, AREN'T YOU HOT IN THERE?
N-NO-THING ...
WHAT?
WHEEK


IT IS PRETTY HOT IN HERE. AND IT'S DARK. BUT IT MAKES ME FEEL SAFE.
ARE YOU REALLY THAT SCARED?!
EVEN ON A BRIGHT AND SUNNY DAY?!

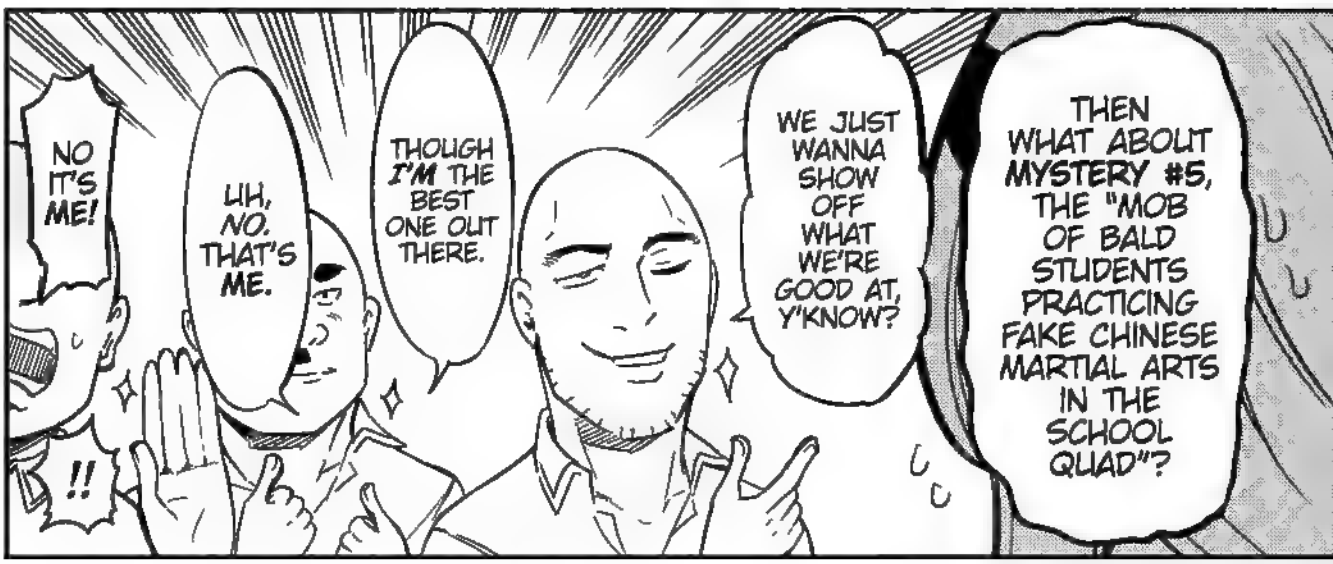
FIRST, LET US EXAMINE THE AREAS WHERE THE VARIOUS MYSTERIES ARE SUSPECTED TO HAVE OCCURRED.
THERE MAY BE CLUES.
HOLY CRAP, THERE'S ACTUALLY SOME-THING FOR US TO DO?!
THEN WHAT THE HECK ARE WE SUP-POSED TO DO?!
NO, SERI-OUSLY! WHAT DO YOU EXPECT US TO DO?!

MIGHT I SUGGEST THAT WE NEEDN'T INVESTIGATE MYSTERY #1, THE SCARY SCIENCE LAB STORY ABOUT THE SCIENCE LAB THAT DOESN'T ACTUALLY EXIST?
Science Lab
YEAH... IT DOESN'T EXIST, AFTER ALL.
MYSTERY #2, THE COPIES OF MONTHLY MANGA ANTHOLOGY I LOVE THAT MYSTERIOUSLY APPEAR IN THE CAFETERIA, IS ALSO SOLVED. THE CURRENT COPY IS ONE WE HAVE PLACED THERE.
I LOVE
I LOVE
WHAT?! YOU'RE THE ONES WHO DO THAT?! THANK YOU SO MUCH! WE LOVE READING THEM!
OKAY, THEN WHAT ABOUT MYSTERY #3, EVERYONE HEARING RANDOM VOICES SHOUTING COMEBACKS?
ISN'T THAT JUST KAZA-MA?
THAT'S KAZA-MA.
UM, I- I THINK IT'S KAZAMA-SAN.
SO THAT ONE'S SOLVED, TOO!
B-B-BUT THE OTHER NIGHT HERE IN SCHOOL, I HEARD A MYSTERIOUS VOICE SHOUT A COMEBACK WITH MY OWN EARS!
AS DID I! AND THE VOICE MOST CERTAINLY WAS NOT KAZAMA-SAN'S!
IT SAID "WHAT IS WRONG WITH BEING BALD?!"
THOUGH, I'VE GOTTA AGREE WITH IT.
WEIRD ...
YEAH. THERE'S NOTHING WRONG WITH BEING BALD!
.....

WHAT'S WRONG WITH BEING BALD?!
?

DRAT! THEY CRACKED OUR SECRET HAND GESTURES AND FIGURED IT OUT!!
WERE YOU THE SOURCE OF THE MYSTERIOUS VOICE THAT NIGHT?!
SO ANOTHER MYSTERY SOLVED!
AND WHY AM I IN TROUBLE AS WELL?
THEN THE VOICE WE HEARD WAS TAKAO-SAN'S. OH...
I HAD NO IDEA IT WOULD TURN INTO SUCH A BIG DEAL.
AND SO, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, THE SOURCE OF THAT GHOSTLY VOICE WAS NO GHOST, BUT OHORI-KUN!
DO YOU WANT SOME-THING SPOOKY TO HAPPEN?!
I KNOW THERE ARE STRANGER AND SPOOKIER THINGS TO COME!!
BUT... BUT WE'VE STILL ONLY SOLVED HALF THE MYSTE-RIES!
KAZAMA AND OTHERS?!
IT SEEMS SAFE TO SAY THE TRUTH BEHIND MYSTERY #3 IS SIMPLY KAZAMA-SAN AND OTHERS SHOUTING ALL THE TIME.

MOVING ON... MYSTERY #4 IS "BALD STUDENTS STANDING IN FRONT OF A MIRROR TO CHECK THEIR HAIR." CAN ANY OF YOU SHED SOME LIGHT ON THAT...?
WELL, UH... I JUST CAN'T HELP IT, Y'KNOW? YOU JUST GOTTA CHECK TO SEE IF THERE MIGHT BE ANY GROWING BACK.
RIGHT ?
ME? I'M CHECKING TO MAKE SURE THERE AREN'T ANY PATCHES I FORGOT TO SHAVE.
WHAT ?! YOU SLOB !!
!!


THEN WHAT ABOUT MYSTERY #5, THE "MOB OF BALD STUDENTS PRACTICING FAKE CHINESE MARTIAL ARTS IN THE SCHOOL QUAD"?
WE JUST WANNA SHOW OFF WHAT WE'RE GOOD AT, Y'KNOW?
THOUGH I'M THE BEST ONE OUT THERE.
UH, NO. THAT'S ME.
NO IT'S ME!
!!

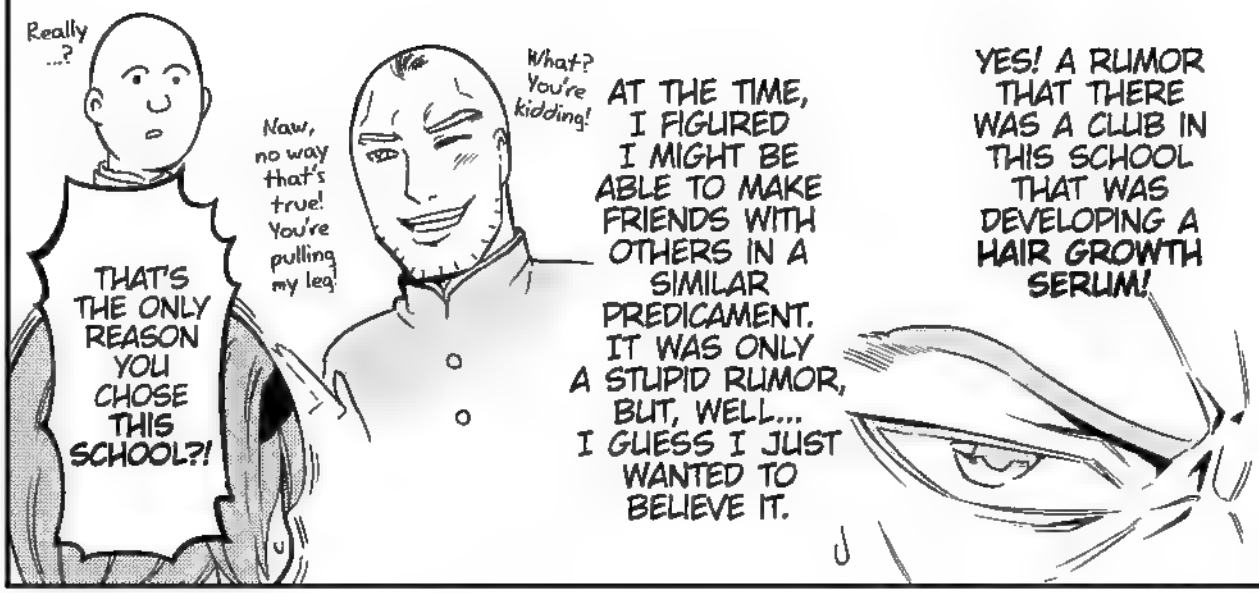
.....
UM ...
HEY, EVERYONE... NONE OF THESE MYSTERIES ACTUALLY SOUND LIKE THEY INVOLVE GHOSTS...
Why did I have to make all those prayer beads...?
WE'RE SORRY, FUNA-BORI!!

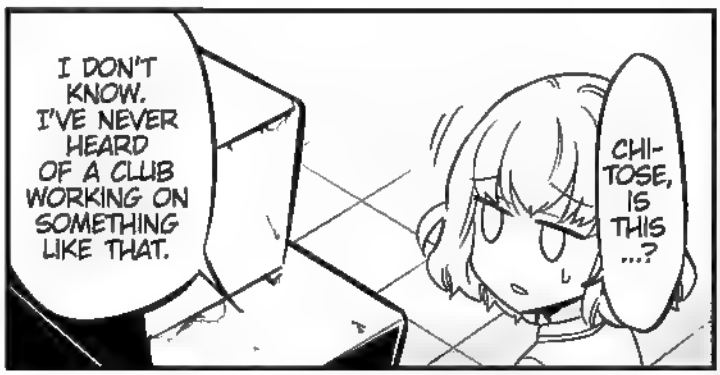
WHEN DID THE STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT BECOME A STAUNCH BELIEVER IN THE PARA-NORMAL?!
I'D BET MY LIFE ON IT!
NO, NO! WE AREN'T FINISHED YET! THE NEXT ONE HAS TO HAVE SOME SORT OF SUPERNATURAL EXPLANATION!

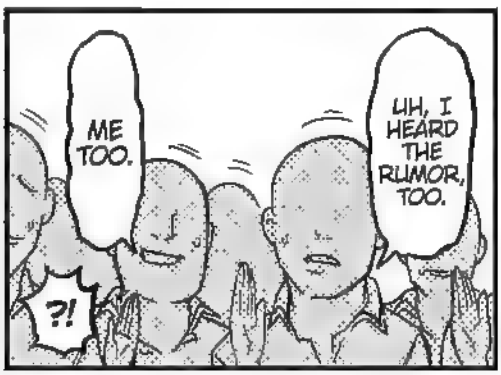
GIVEN THE SHEER NUMBER OF BALD GUYS HERE, YOU CAN'T DENY THAT SOME MYSTERIOUS POWER IS AT WORK!!
MYSTERY #6: FOR SOME UNKNOWN REASON, BALD STUDENTS FLOCK TO THIS SCHOOL.

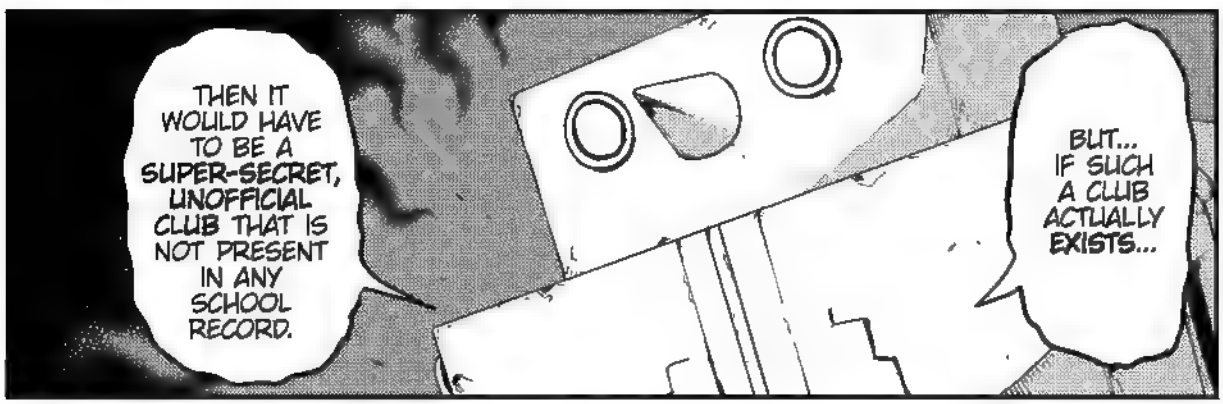
RIGHT?! YOU CAN'T SAY IT'S NOT WEIRD!

A RUMOR?
THAT'S WHAT MADE ME DECIDE I MIGHT AS WELL APPLY TO THIS SCHOOL.
DUUN...
TO BE HONEST, BEFORE I CAME HERE I HEARD A CERTAIN... RUMOR.

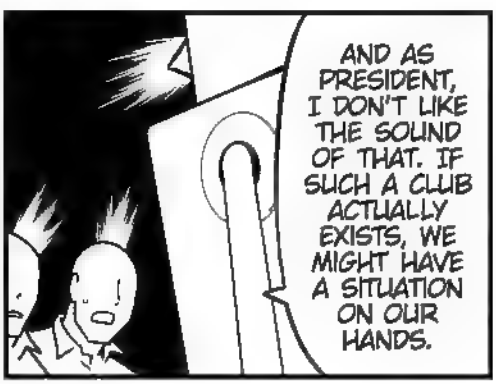

Really ...?
THAT'S THE ONLY REASON YOU CHOSE THIS SCHOOL?!
Naw, no way that's true! You're pulling my leg.
What? You're kidding!
AT THE TIME, I FIGURED I MIGHT BE ABLE TO MAKE FRIENDS WITH OTHERS IN A SIMILAR PREDICAMENT. IT WAS ONLY A STUPID RUMOR, BUT, WELL... I GUESS I JUST WANTED TO BELIEVE IT.
YES! A RUMOR THAT THERE WAS A CLUB IN THIS SCHOOL THAT WAS DEVELOPING A HAIR GROWTH SERUM!


I DON'T KNOW. I'VE NEVER HEARD OF A CLUB WORKING ON SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
CHI-TOSE, IS THIS ...?


ME TOO.
UH, I HEARD THE RUMOR, TOO.
?!


THEN IT WOULD HAVE TO BE A SUPER-SECRET, UNOFFICIAL CLUB THAT IS NOT PRESENT IN ANY SCHOOL RECORD.
BUT... IF SUCH A CLUB ACTUALLY EXISTS...

YOU'RE STILL CHASING THAT RUMOR ?!
NOW THINGS ARE GETTING INTERES-TING!
OH REALLY ?

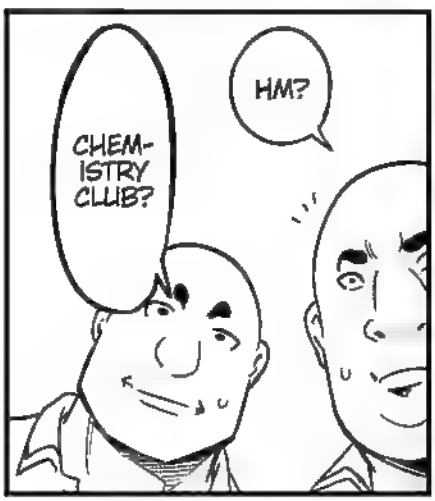

AND AS PRESIDENT, I DON'T LIKE THE SOUND OF THAT. IF SUCH A CLUB ACTUALLY EXISTS, WE MIGHT HAVE A SITUATION ON OUR HANDS.

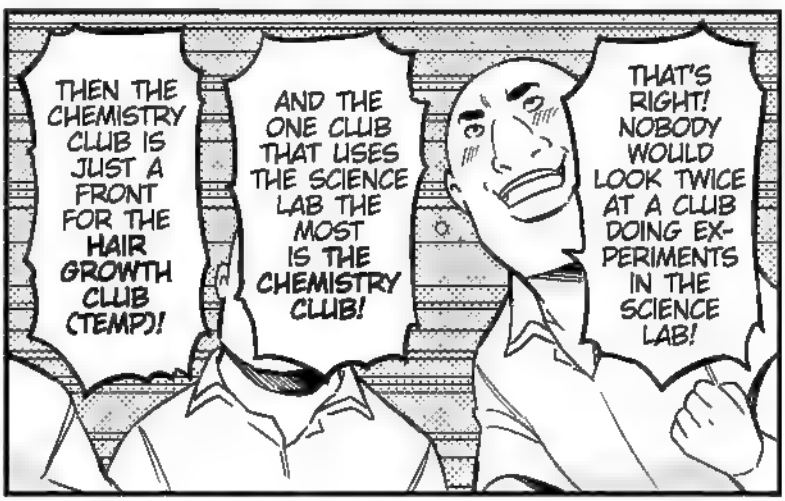
!
UH, THERE ARE, ACTUALLY. OODLES!
Hmmm...
YEAH. IT'S NOT LIKE THERE ARE TONS OF CLUES LYING AROUND ...
STILL, HOW ARE WE SUPPOSED TO FIND A CLUB LIKE THAT?
B-B-BUT THEY SAY THAT GHOSTS ARE DRAWN TO WATER! I COULDN'T!!
And if you're a water affinity!
THAT'S WHY?!
SAKU-RA...
SHEESH, YOU GUYS ARE MEAN. HAVING ALL THIS FUN WITHOUT ME!
ANYWAY, TELL US ABOUT THOSE CLUES!
AND SHE ACTUALLY DOESN'T MIND?!
Knock!
DRAWN TO ME? REALLY? I'M NOT THAT ATTRACTIVE ...
AND TO KEEP ANYONE FROM GETTING TOO NOSEY, THEY HAVE TO MAKE IT SEEM LIKE THEY AREN'T DOING ANYTHING OUT OF THE ORDINARY.
ONE WHERE YOU COULD WORK ON SOMETHING AND IT WOULD LOOK NORMAL.
WELL, THINK ABOUT IT. IF THIS CLUB IS RESEARCHING HAIR GROWTH, THEY'RE GOING TO NEED A PLACE TO DO SOME EXPERIMENTS.

NOW... WHICH ONE OF THE SCHOOL MYSTERIES DOES THAT REMIND YOU OF?

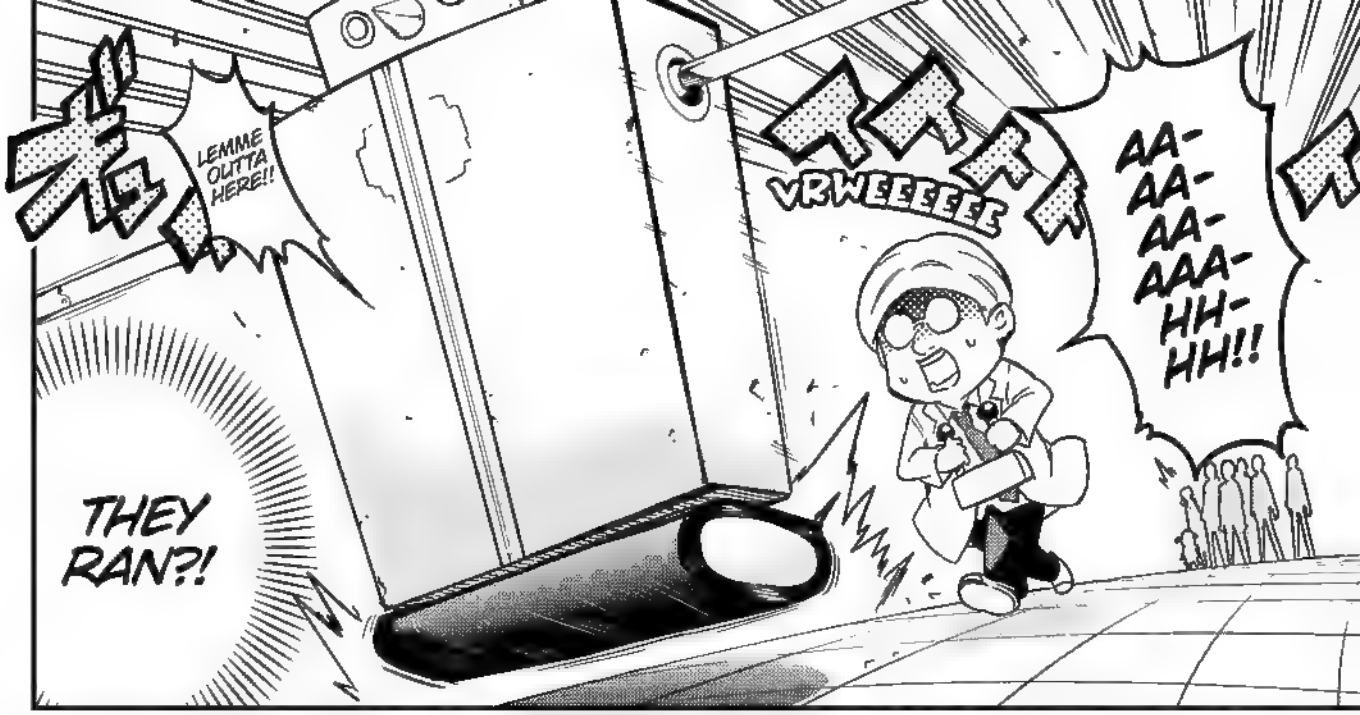
AH.

MYSTERY #1, THE SCARY SCIENCE LAB STORY YOU'D THINK WOULD EXIST, BUT DOESN'T!!


HM?
CHEM-ISTRY CLUB?


THEN THE CHEMISTRY CLUB IS JUST A FRONT FOR THE HAIR GROWTH CLUB (TEMP)!
AND THE ONE CLUB THAT USES THE SCIENCE LAB THE MOST IS THE CHEMISTRY CLUB!
THAT'S RIGHT! NOBODY WOULD LOOK TWICE AT A CLUB DOING EX-PERIMENTS IN THE SCIENCE LAB!

TEN-NOZU-KUN...
YOU'RE IN THE CHEMISTRY CLUB, AREN'T YOU?
CHI-TO-SE!
HUH? THE DOOR'S STUCK!
RATL
RATL
BAM BAM
KLONK
AND COME TO THINK OF IT, HE'S BALD, TOO...
CHITOSE, CALM DOWN! THIS IS NOTHING BUT SIMPLE PHYSICS AT WORK!
WH-WHAT'S SEALED ME IN HERE?! THE CHEMISTRY CLUB'S POWER OF SCIENCE?! OR THE MYSTERIOUS POWERS OF A GHOSTLY CURSE?!
RATL
RATL
RATL
HNNGH! OH JEEZ. IT REALLY ISN'T OPENING. TH-THIS IS STARTING TO FREAK ME OUT...
WHEEEOW
Open it NOW!!
Open up!!
WHEEEOW
Lemme go!!
Lemme out!


LEMME OUTTA HERE!!
VRWEEEEEEE
AA-AA-AA-AAA-HH-HH!!
THEY RAN?!

WHY DO YOU TWO SEEM SO UPSET ABOUT THAT?!
WE HAVE FINALLY STUMBLED INTO A SITUATION WHERE SOMEONE OTHER THAN KAZAMA-SAN GOT KIDNAPPED!
YUP.
THIS...

WELL, THAT SUCKS!
Science Lab
IS THAT SO?
OH?
IT SEEMS OUR COVER HAS BEEN BLOWN. THE JIG'S UP.
AH.
I SEE.

SHAKE...

D-FRAGMENTS
ディーフラグメンツ!

PREVIOUSLY ON D-FRAG!
WHILE DELVING INTO THE TRUTH BEHIND THE FUJOU ACADEMY SEVEN MYSTERIES, OUR INTREPID CREW OF ADVENTURERS DISCOVERED THAT THE CHEMISTRY CLUB WAS WORKING ON A SECRET HAIR GROWTH FORMULA! PANICKING, CHEMISTRY CLUB MOLE TENNOZU-KUN RUNS AWAY, TAKING LEGENDARY ROBOT ISLE--WITH CHITOSE STILL INSIDE!--WITH HIM...
...MAKING ALL THE GIRLS PRESENT JEALOUS FOR NO CLEAR REASON!
Um, I don't really mind...

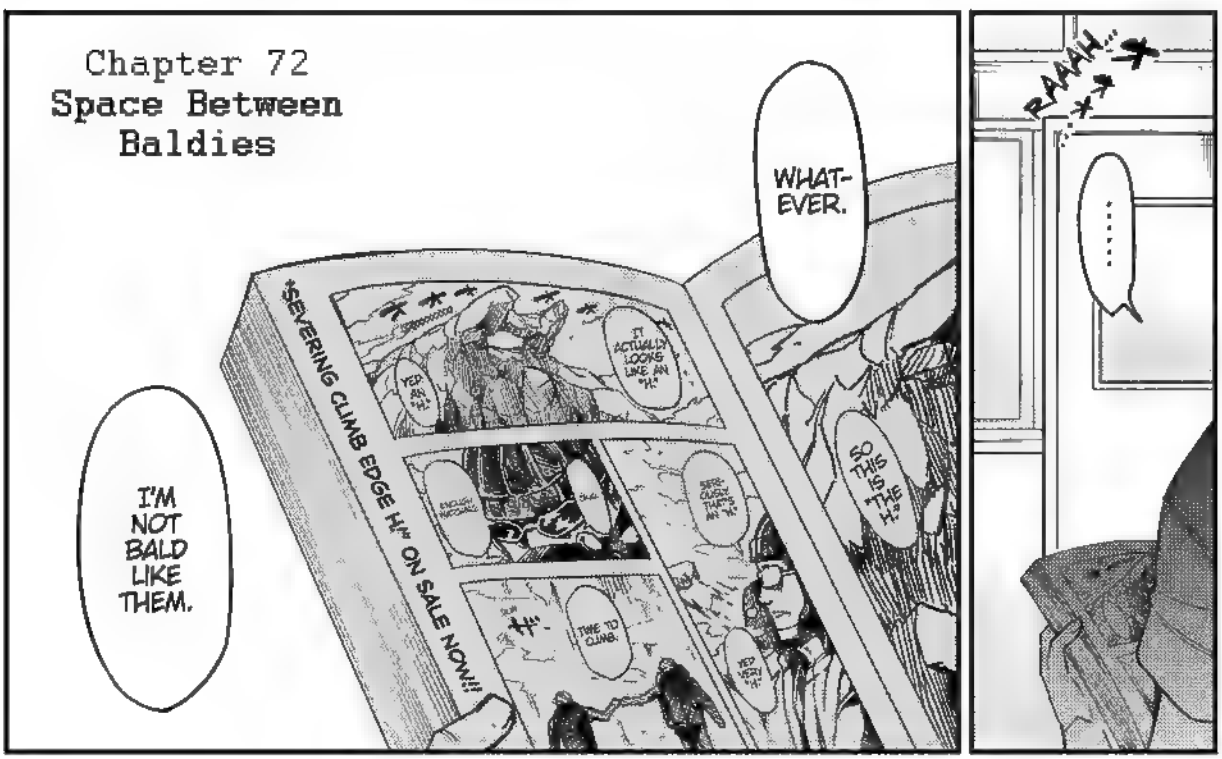
WHO WOULD'VE THOUGHT OUR CLUB'S SECRET WOULD EVER BE EXPOSED ...?
UH-OH.
Science Lab

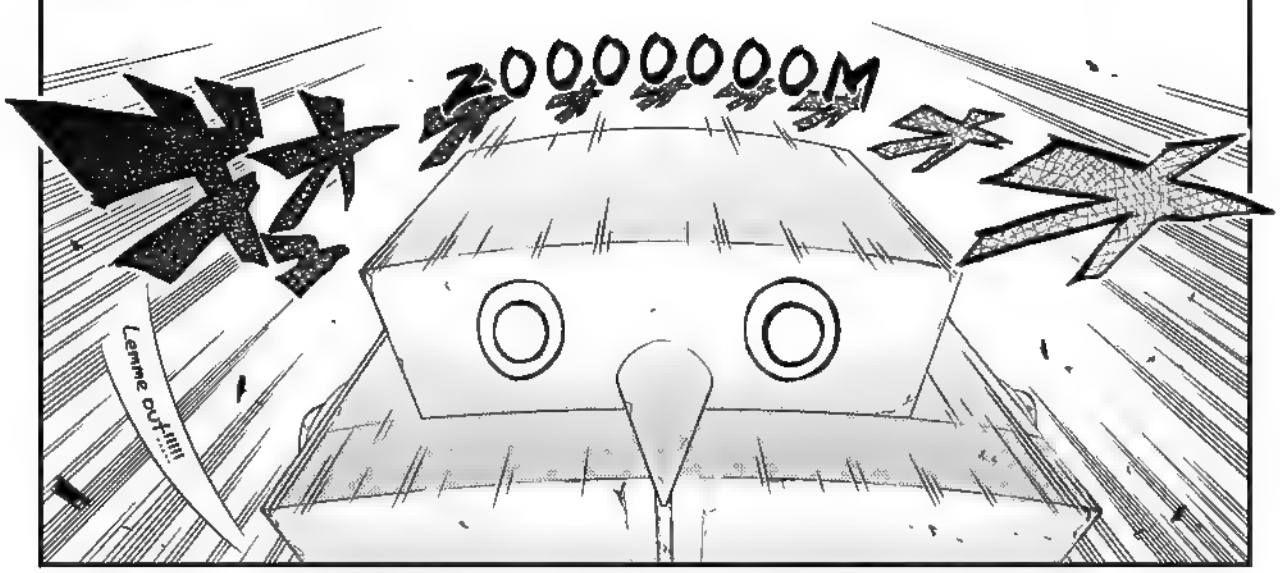
YEP. WE'RE SCREWED.
THIS IS BAD. REAL BAD.

DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT!
Y-YEAH! YOU'RE AN HONORED GUEST!
N-NO, YOU DON'T NEED TO WORRY ABOUT THIS!
WANT SOME HELP?
WHAT? YOU GUYS IN TROUBLE?

RIGHT! WE GOT TO SAVE OUR BUDDY! OR ELSE WE'RE LETTING DOWN BALDIES EVERY-WHERE!
YEAH! WE NEED TO GO AND SAVE TENNOZU-KUN!
RAAAAAAAAH!
ANYWAY, WE GOTTA DO SOME-THING!

Chapter 72
Space Between Baldies




ZOOOOOOOM
Lemme out!!!!!

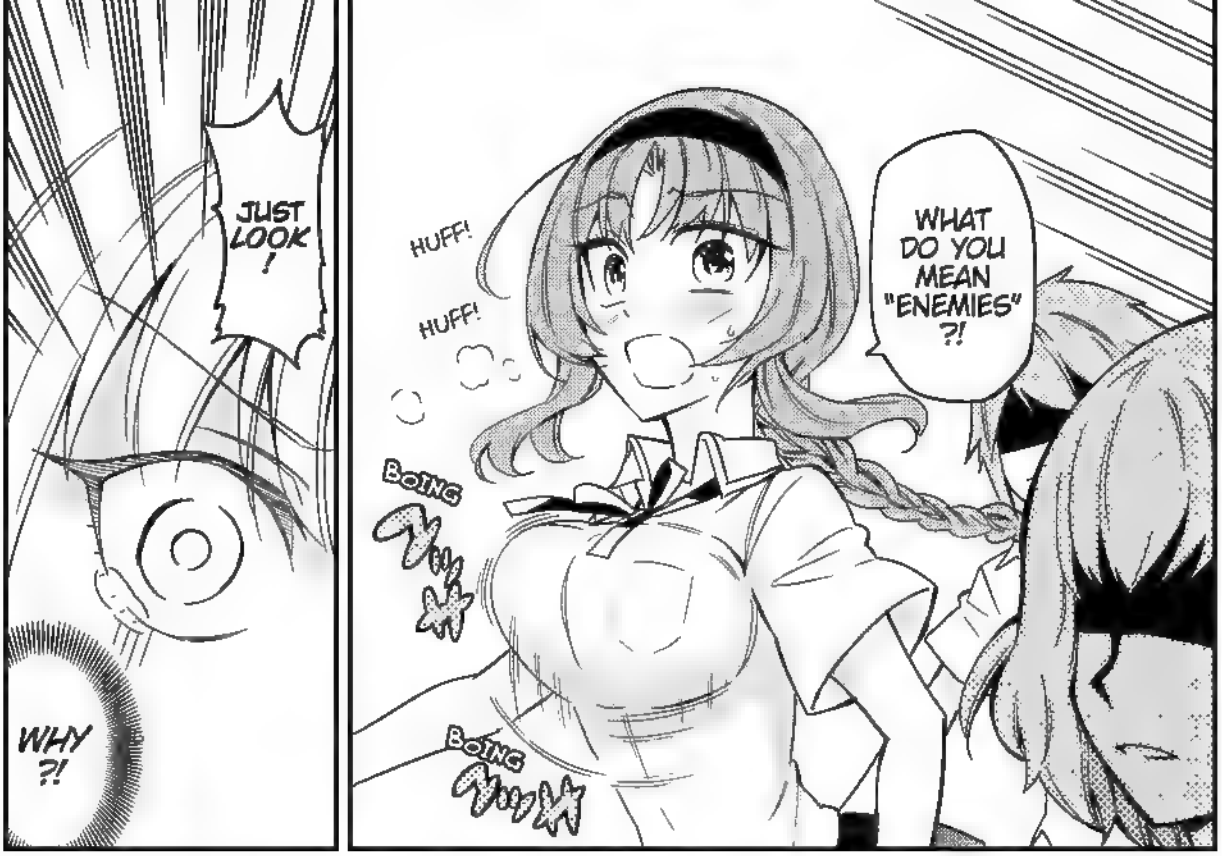
COME BACK HERE!!
RAAAAAAH!!
WAIT !!
GIVE CHITOSE BACK, YOU FIEND!

IF WE DON'T DO SOMETHING FAST, THEY'LL GET SHUT DOWN AND WE'LL BE BALD FOREVER!
!!

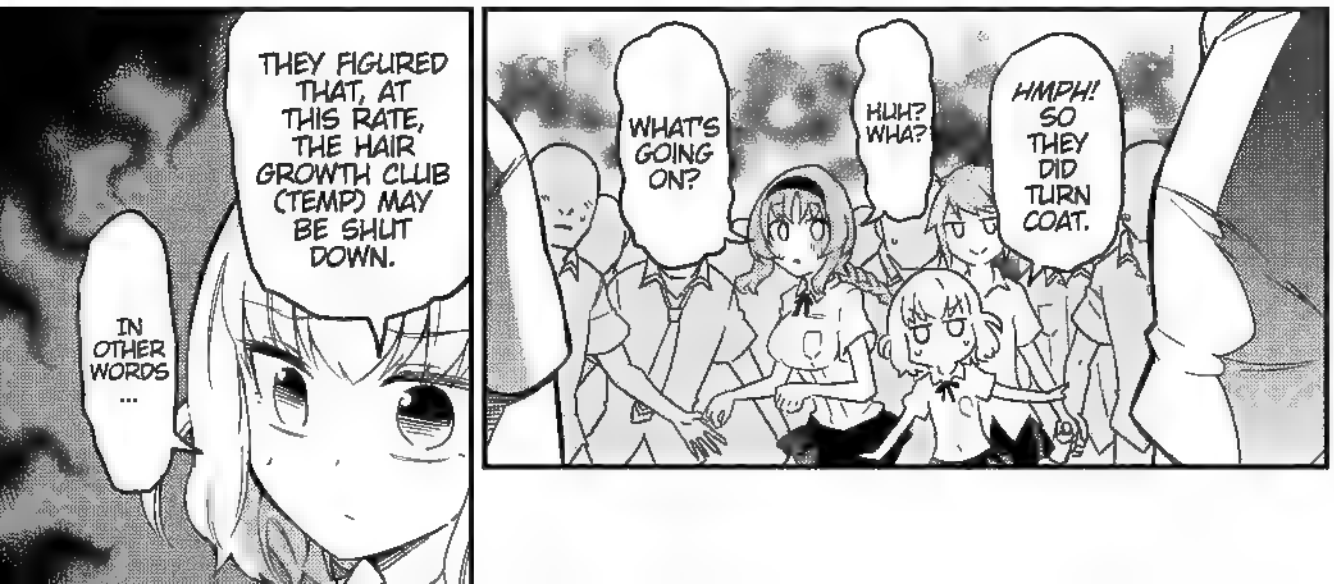
H-HEY! I WASN'T REALLY HOPING FOR ONE! I LIKE BEING BALD!!
THINK ABOUT IT. WE FIND OUT THERE'S A CLUB WORKING ON A HAIR GROWTH FORMULA... SOMETHING WE'RE ACTUALLY BEEN HOPING FOR THIS WHOLE TIME...
AND THEN ALL THIS CRAP GOES DOWN. AT THIS RATE, DON'T YOU THINK THE HAIR GROWTH CLUB (TEMP) COULD WIND UP IN TROUBLE?

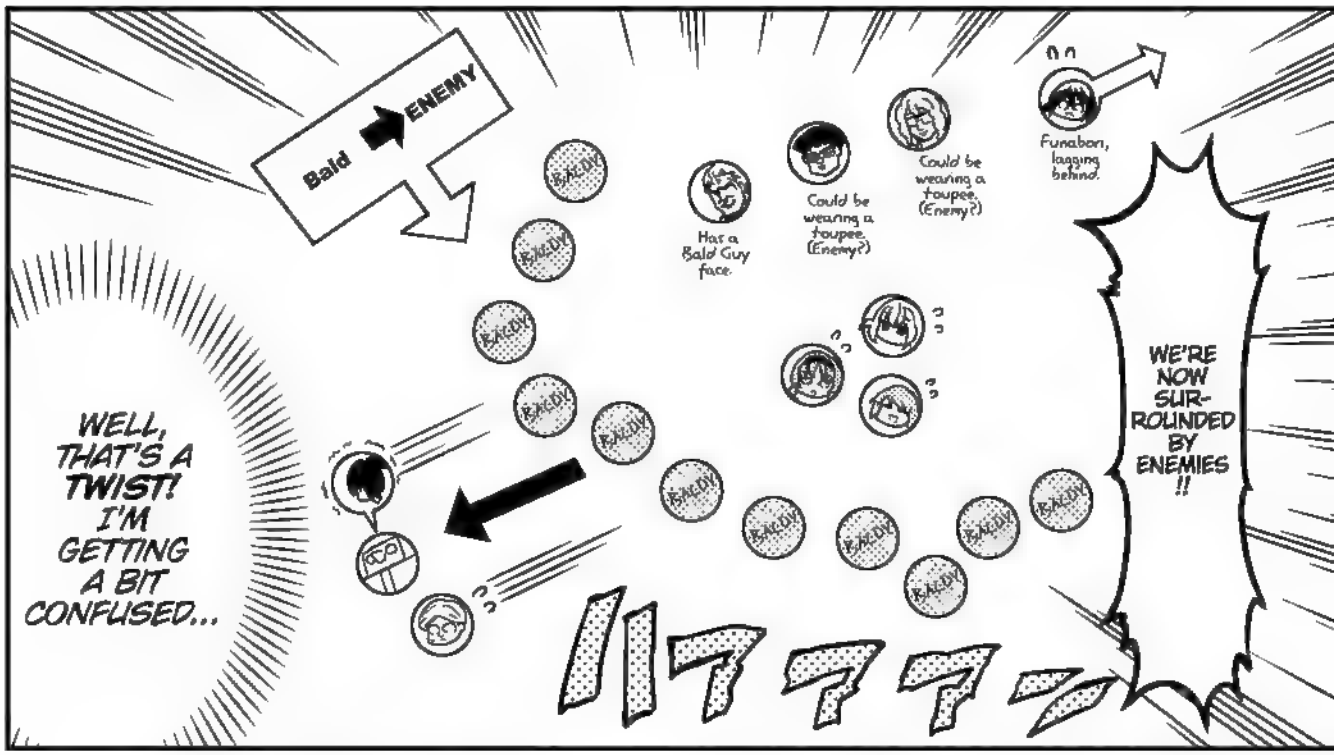
HUH?
WAIT A MINUTE. ISN'T THIS BAD?
vweeeeeeM
HUH?

HE'S RIGHT. THAT WOULD SUCK!
WHAT ?! NO WAY!!
OH, SO YOU DO CARE!
I GUESS WE'RE JUST GETTING TIRED FROM RUNNING SO HARD!
WHAT, ARE WE?
ER, EXCUSE ME, BUT WHY IS EVERYONE SLOWING DOWN?
TROMP
HUFF.
WH-WHAT ?
HOW ?
I FEEL LIKE SOMETHING MORE IS GOING ON HERE.
.....
HUH ?!
I THINK OUR ALLIES OF THE MOMENT MAY TURN OUT TO BE ENEMIES.


JUST LOOK!
WHY?!
HUFF!
HUFF!
BOING
BOING
WHAT DO YOU MEAN "ENEMIES"?!

SKSHWNNNWNNN
?!
SORRRRY!!

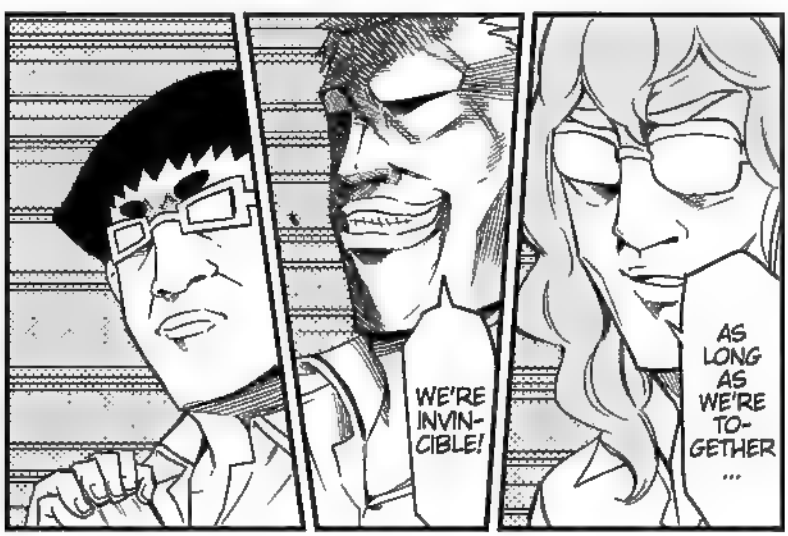

IN OTHER WORDS...
THEY FIGURED THAT, AT THIS RATE, THE HAIR GROWTH CLUB (TEMP) MAY BE SHUT DOWN.
WHAT'S GOING ON?
HUH? WHA?
HMPH! SO THEY DID TURN COAT.

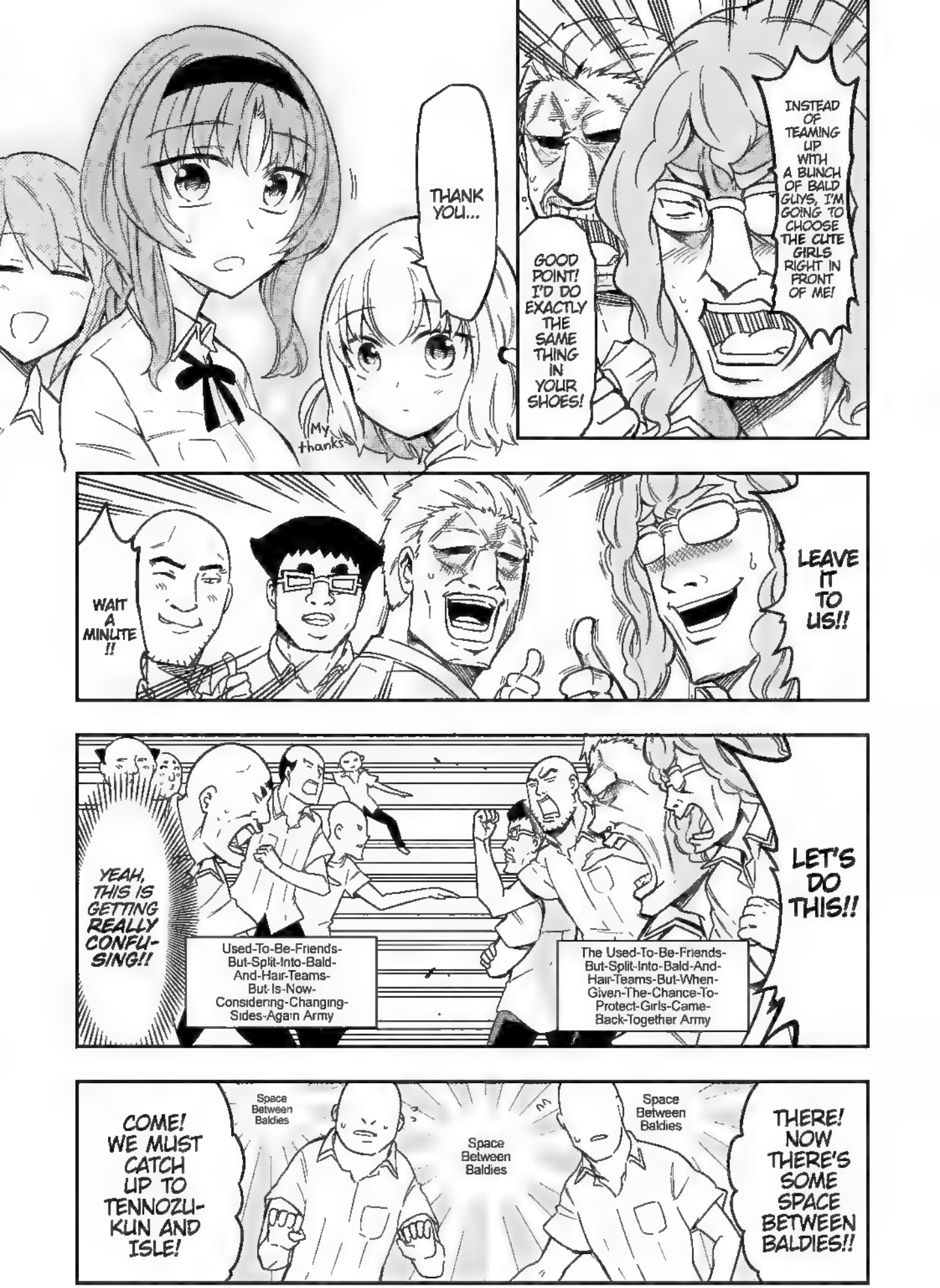

Bald ENEMY
BALDY
Hat a Bald Guy face.
Could be wearing a toupee. (Enemy?)
Could be wearing a toupee. (Enemy?)
Funabori, lagging behind.
WE'RE NOW SUR-ROUNDED BY ENEMIES !!
WELL, THAT'S A TWIST! I'M GETTING A BIT CONFUSED...

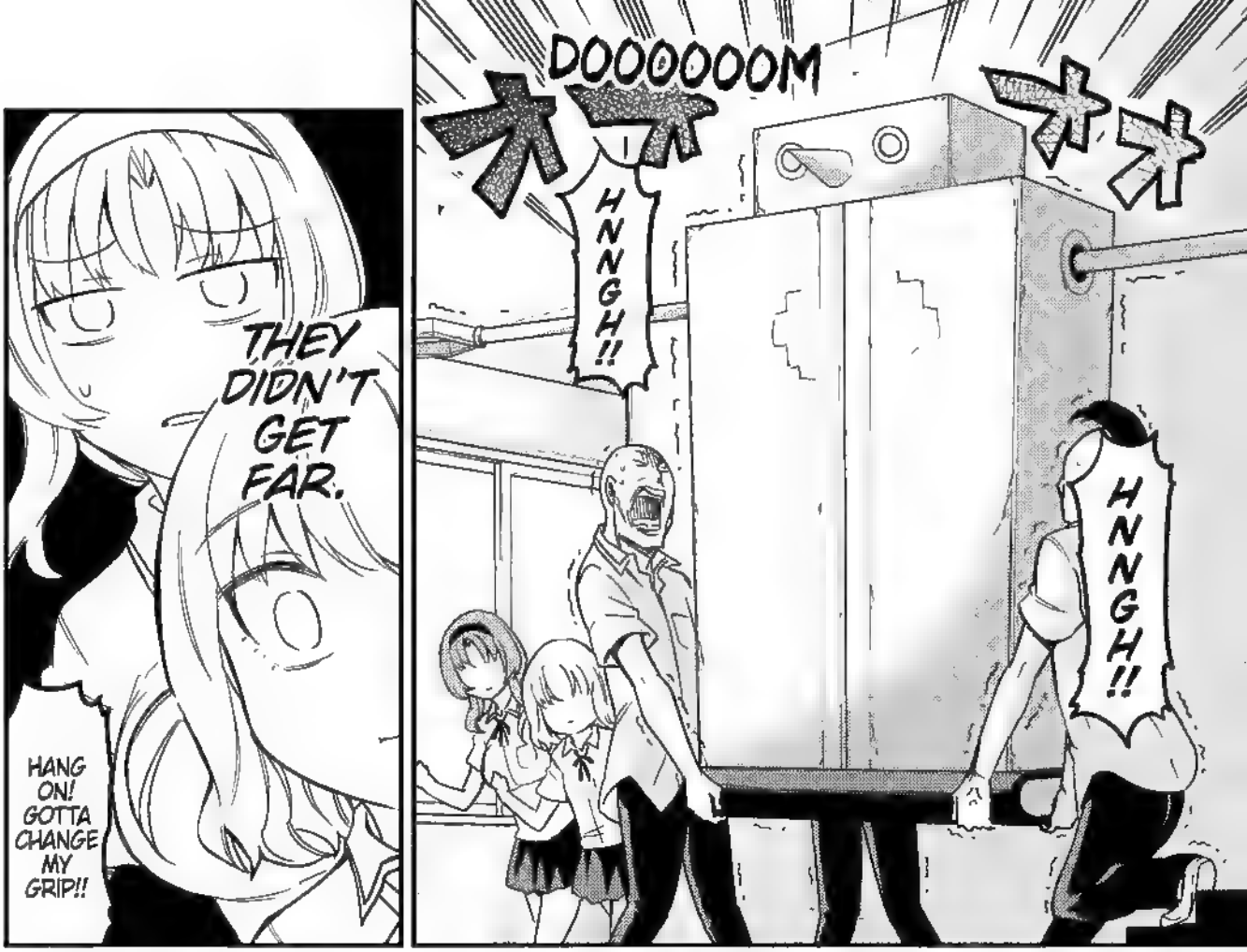
DUN!!
ANYWAY! YOU LADIES LEAVE THIS TO US AND GO ON AHEAD.

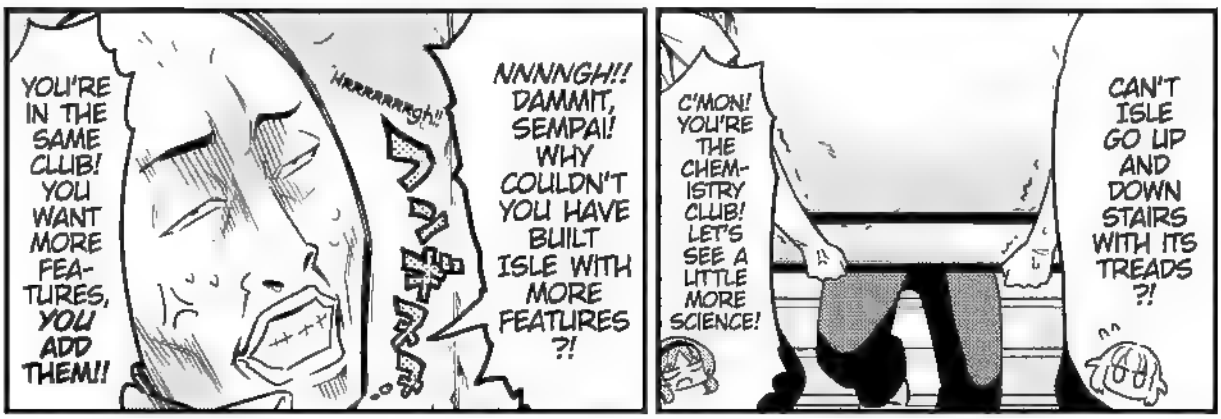
AND WHAT DO YOU MEAN I HAVE A "BALD GUY" FACE?!
H-HEY! HOLD ON! THIS IS MY NATURAL HAIR, Y'KNOW!

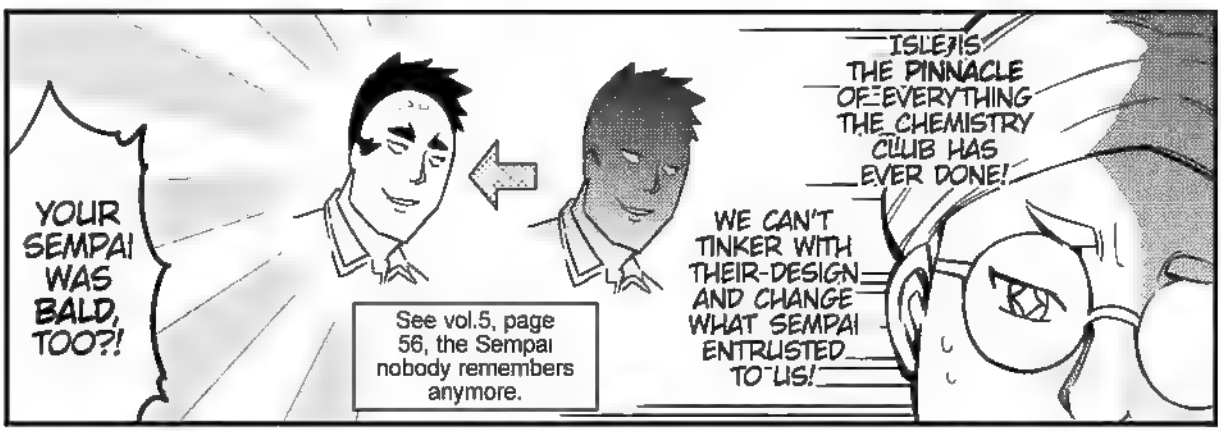
SHINO-ZAKI! MUROMI! ARE YOU REALLY BETRAY-ING US ?!
I THOUGHT WE WERE FRIENDS !!


WE'RE INVIN-CIBLE!
AS LONG AS WE'RE TO-GETHER ...


INSTEAD OF TEAMING UP WITH A BUNCH OF BALD GUYS, I'M GOING TO CHOOSE THE CUTE GIRLS RIGHT IN FRONT OF ME!
GOOD POINT! I'D DO EXACTLY THE SAME THING IN YOUR SHOES!
THANK YOU...
My thanks
LEAVE IT TO US!!
WAIT A MINUTE !!
LET'S DO THIS!!
YEAH, THIS IS GETTING REALLY CONFU-SING!!
Used-To-Be-Friends-But-Split-Into-Bald-And-Hair-Teams-But-Is-Now-Considering-Changing-Sides-Again Army
The Used-To-Be-Friends-But-Split-Into-Bald-And-Hair-Teams-But-When-Given-The-Chance-To-Protect-Girls-Came-Back-Together Army
THERE! NOW THERE'S SOME SPACE BETWEEN BALDIES!!
Space Between Baldies
Space Between Baldies
Space Between Baldies
COME! WE MUST CATCH UP TO TENNOZU-KUN AND ISLE!




YOU'RE IN THE SAME CLUB! YOU WANT MORE FEATURES, YOU ADD THEM!!
HERRRRRRGH!!
NNNNGH!! DAMMIT, SEMPAI! WHY COULDN'T YOU HAVE BUILT ISLE WITH MORE FEATURES ?!
C'MON! YOU'RE THE CHEMISTRY CLUB! LET'S SEE A LITTLE MORE SCIENCE!
CAN'T ISLE GO UP AND DOWN STAIRS WITH ITS TREADS ?!


YOUR SEMPAI WAS BALD, TOO?!
ISLE IS THE PINNACLE OF EVERYTHING THE CHEMISTRY CLUB HAS EVER DONE!
WE CAN'T TINKER WITH THEIR DESIGN AND CHANGE WHAT SEMPAI ENTRUSTED TO US!

See vol.5, page 56, the Sempai nobody remembers anymore.

RIGHT NOW, CHITOSE IS STILL INSIDE.
COULD YOU NOT MENTION ITS WEIGHT ...?
SHUFFLE
YEAH! I'M GONNA BREAK MY BACK!
SHUFFLE
TEETER
TEETER
FORGET ABOUT THAT! JEEZ, THIS THING IS HEAVY !!
WHEN DID ISLE GET TO BE THIS STUPIDLY HEAVY?!
ERM ...
I CAN'T HOLD ONTO THIS ANY-MORE!! IT'S TOO MUCH!!
AAA-UGH... MY ARMS!
JUST A LITTLE FURTHER! YOU'RE ALMOST THERE!!
MINE, TOO!
HNNGR-RRRRR!! THIS IS SO LIGHT!! IT'S AS LIGHT AS A FEATHER!
TOO LITTLE, TOO LATE.
NOBODY TOLD US ABOUT THAT!!
I-I'M SORRY! I WAS IN A BIT OF A RUSH AND FORGOT TO MENTION IT.

WHUNK
AAA-UGH!! THIS THING IS HAUNTED!!
Too heavy too heavy oh god oh god oh god...
I'm scaaaaared...
Oh god oh god too dark too dark too dark too dark...

THE HAIR GROWTH CLUB IS DOOMED! DOOO-OMED!!
YOU'RE FREAKED OUT? I'M FREAKED OUT!

B-BUT ...
HEY, WATCH IT! THERE'S SOME-ONE IN THERE!
THAT MUMB-LING FREAKS ME OUT!

AAAAAH!! AND THE CHEMISTRY CLUB, TOO!!
BAM
BAM
BAM
BAM
BAM
BAM

W-WE MUST SAVE CHITOSE!

BAM
BAM
BAM
BAM

WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?! UNLOCK ISLE'S FRONT DOOR THINGY!
OH!
R-RIGHT...
H-HEY...
UM...

S-STOP THAT! SEMPAI ENTRUSTED ME ALONE WITH THIS REMOTE!
WELL IT'S MINE NOW!
NO, IT'S MINE!
NO, MINE!! I'VE BEEN WAITING ALL YEAR FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO STEAL IT!
NO, WAIT! YOU CAN'T DO THAT YET!
HUH?!
GIVE US THREE MINUTES...
NO, FIVE MINUTES TO PREPARE OURSELVES!
STOP STALLING AND DO IT!
PINCH

OH NO YOU DON'T—
SLIP

RATL RATL WHRR WHRR WHRRRRRR
RATL RATL RATL RATL

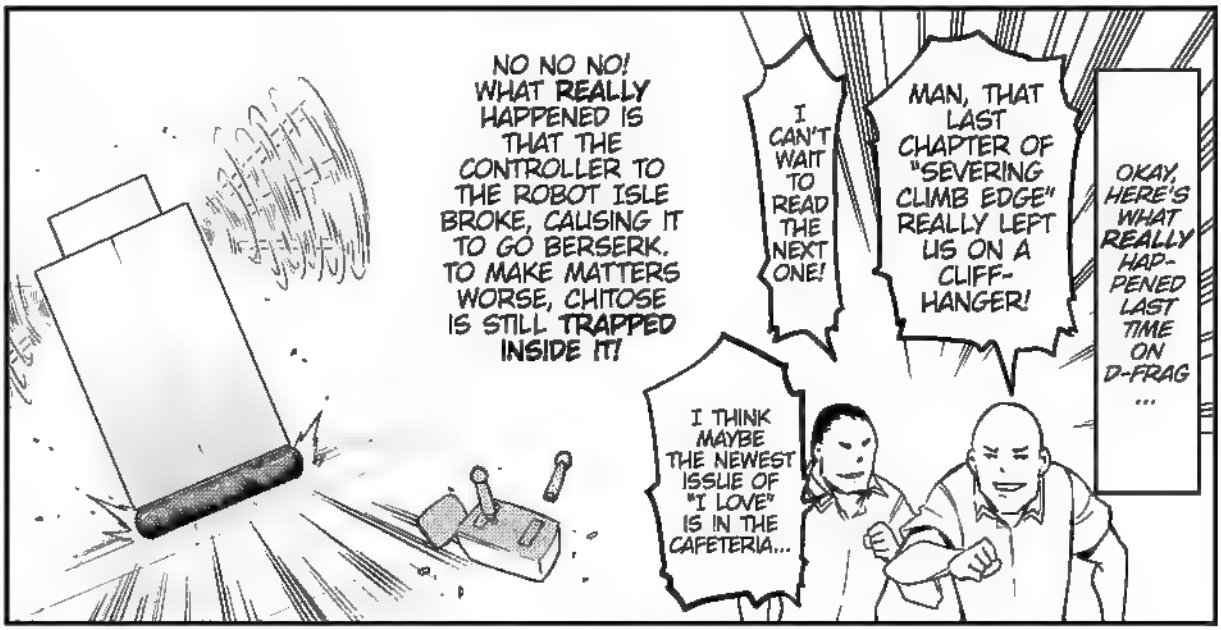
KRASH
OOPS

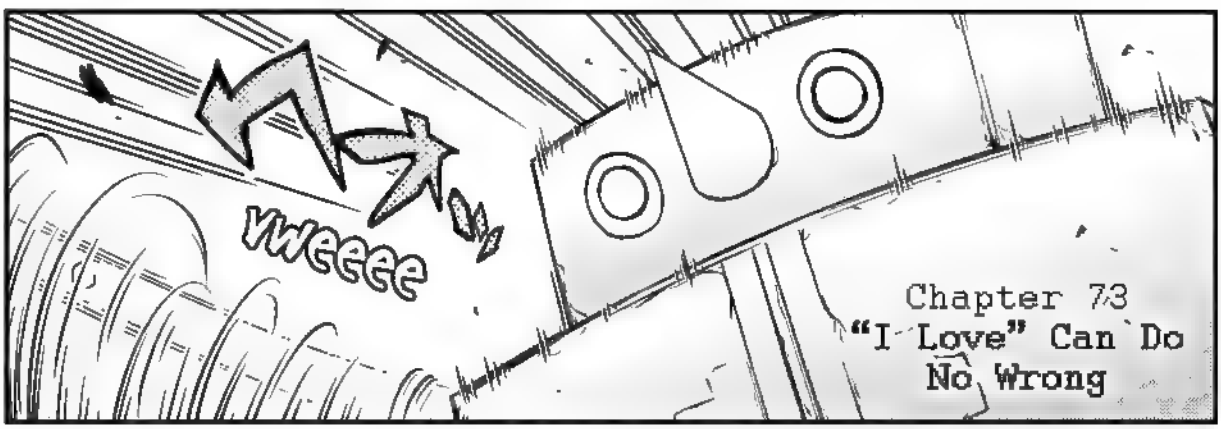
VREEEEEEEEEEEEE
GRONK
GRONK
GRONK
GRONK
GRONK
GRONK
KREEEE
UH-OH!!
ZOOOOOOM
OH NOOO-OOO!!
NEXT ISSUE: THE FINAL CHAPTER!!
GOD, THEY'RE NOISY TODAY ...
Ahhhh!
VREEEEEE

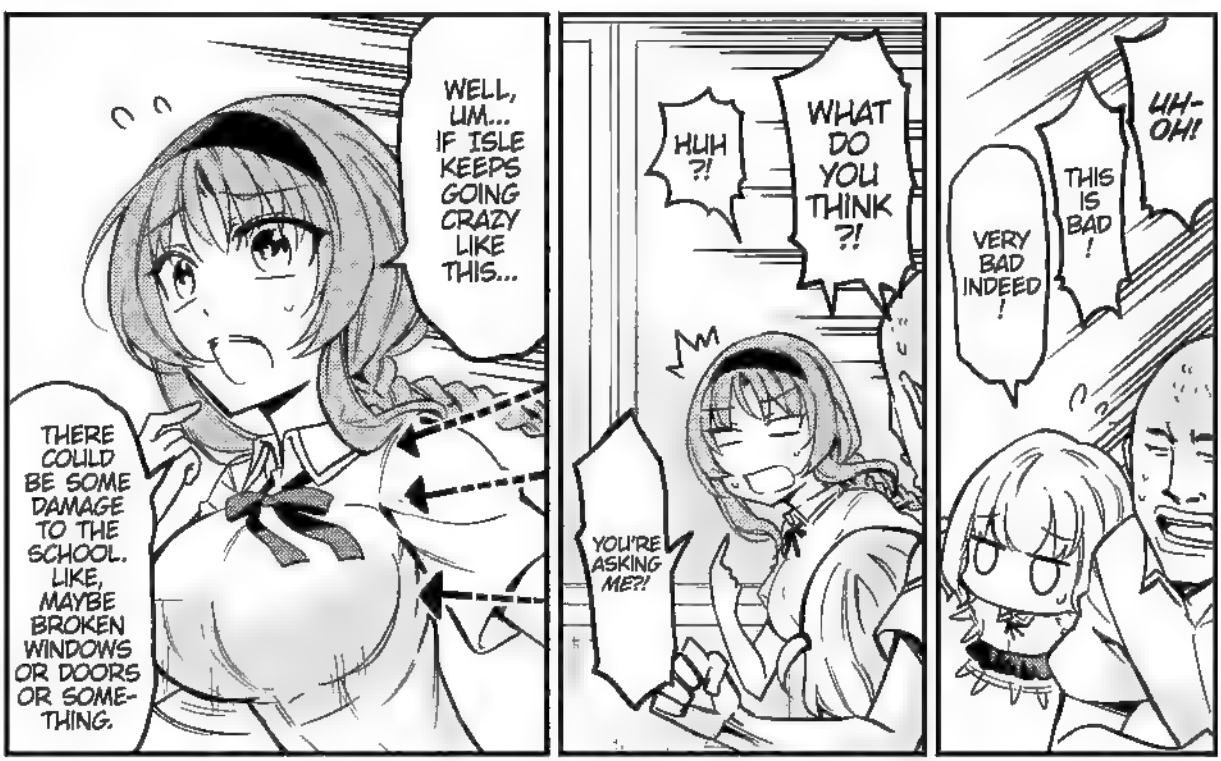
KRIK
KRIK

D-FRAGMENTS
ディーフラグメンツ!

The Severing Climb Edge "H"!
MWA HA HA... WHO WOULD HAVE THOUGHT MERE HUMANS COULD SCALE THE H PEAK.
CLATTER
LAST TIME ON D-FRAG!
IT'S COLLAPSING!!
!
RMBL
RMBL
RMBL
UNBELIEVABLE!! H PEAK WAS REALLY THE PRISON FOR A DOUBLE-HEADED DRAGON?!
YESSSS! AFTER THOUSANDS OF YEARS AS STONE, WE ARE FREE!
BUT THANKS TO THEIR FOOLISH-NESS, THE SEAL IMPRISONING US HAS BEEN BROKEN!
YOU! YOU ARE NOT MERE MOUNTAIN CLIMBERS! YOU ARE REALLY THE--
LOOKS LIKE THOSE ANCIENT DOCU-MENTS WERE RIGHT.
I FIGURED AS MUCH!
HUH?

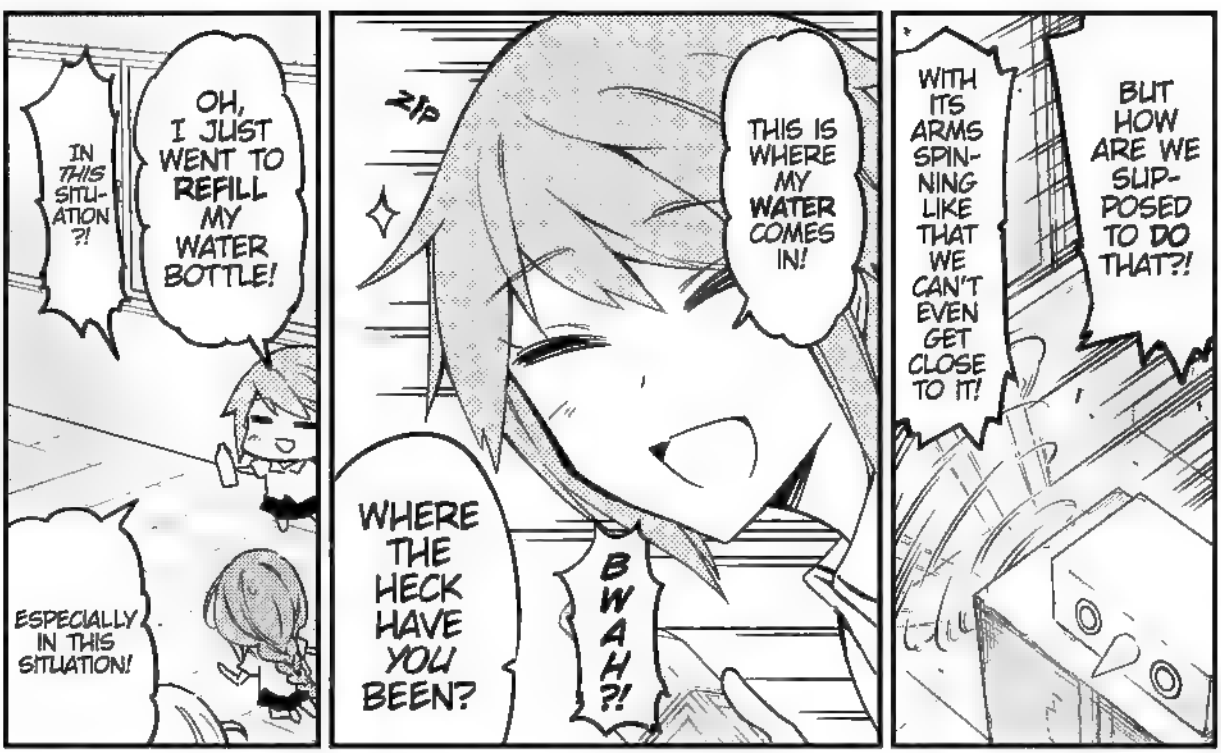

OKAY, HERE'S WHAT REALLY HAPPENED LAST TIME ON D-FRAG ...
MAN, THAT LAST CHAPTER OF "SEVERING CLIMB EDGE" REALLY LEFT US ON A CLIFF-HANGER!
I CAN'T WAIT TO READ THE NEXT ONE!
I THINK MAYBE THE NEWEST ISSUE OF "I LOVE" IS IN THE CAFETERIA...
NO NO NO! WHAT REALLY HAPPENED IS THAT THE CONTROLLER TO THE ROBOT ISLE BROKE, CAUSING IT TO GO BERSERK. TO MAKE MATTERS WORSE, CHITOSE IS STILL TRAPPED INSIDE IT!

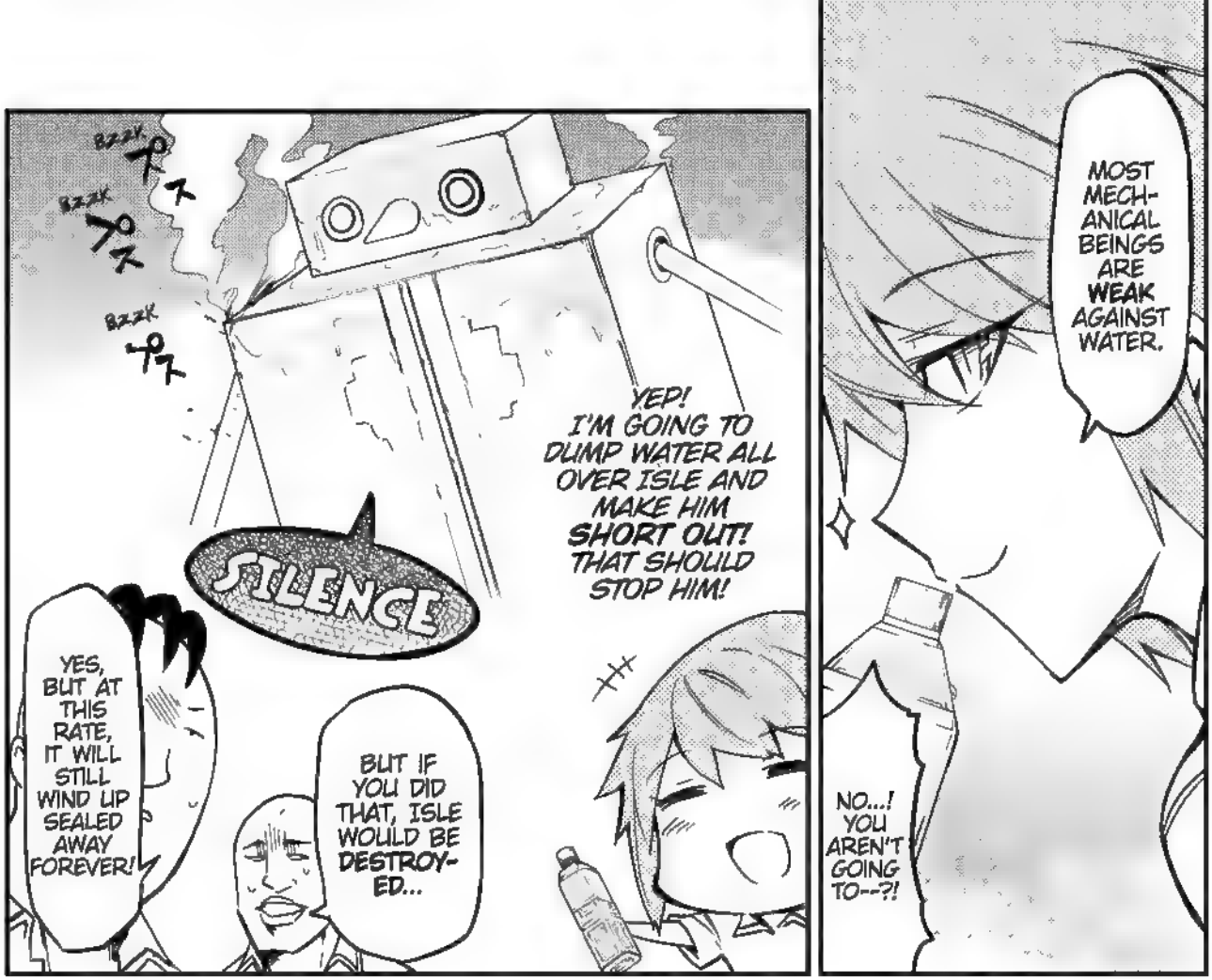

Yweeee
Chapter 73
"I Love" Can Do No Wrong


WELL, UM... IF ISLE KEEPS GOING CRAZY LIKE THIS...
THERE COULD BE SOME DAMAGE TO THE SCHOOL. LIKE, MAYBE BROKEN WINDOWS OR DOORS OR SOMETHING.
HUH?!
WHAT DO YOU THINK?!
YOU'RE ASKING ME?!
UH-OH!
THIS IS BAD!
VERY BAD INDEED!

Delinquent
Delinquent
Regular Student
I LOVE
Hell-o!
FUJOU ACADEMY WILL PLUNGE INTO LAWLESS CHAOS, OVERRUN BY DELINQUENTS AND RULED BY THE LAW OF SURVIVAL OF THE FITTEST!
AND THE DEVASTATION WILL BE SO GREAT THAT STUDENT MORALE WILL PLUMMET.
THAT BAD?!
Seeing the damage Isle gets away with, the other students will rise up to wreck the rest of the school!

THEY STILL WOULDN'T FORGIVE US FOR THAT! WE HAVE TO STOP ISLE, NO MATTER WHAT!!
EVEN IF WE SHAVED OUR HEADS BALD AND DEDICATED OURSELVES TO A MONASTERY...


IN THIS SITUATION?!
OH, I JUST WENT TO REFILL MY WATER BOTTLE!
ESPECIALLY IN THIS SITUATION!
ZIP
THIS IS WHERE MY WATER COMES IN!
WHERE THE HECK HAVE YOU BEEN?
BWAH?!
WITH ITS ARMS SPINNING LIKE THAT WE CAN'T EVEN GET CLOSE TO IT!
BUT HOW ARE WE SUPPOSED TO DO THAT?!

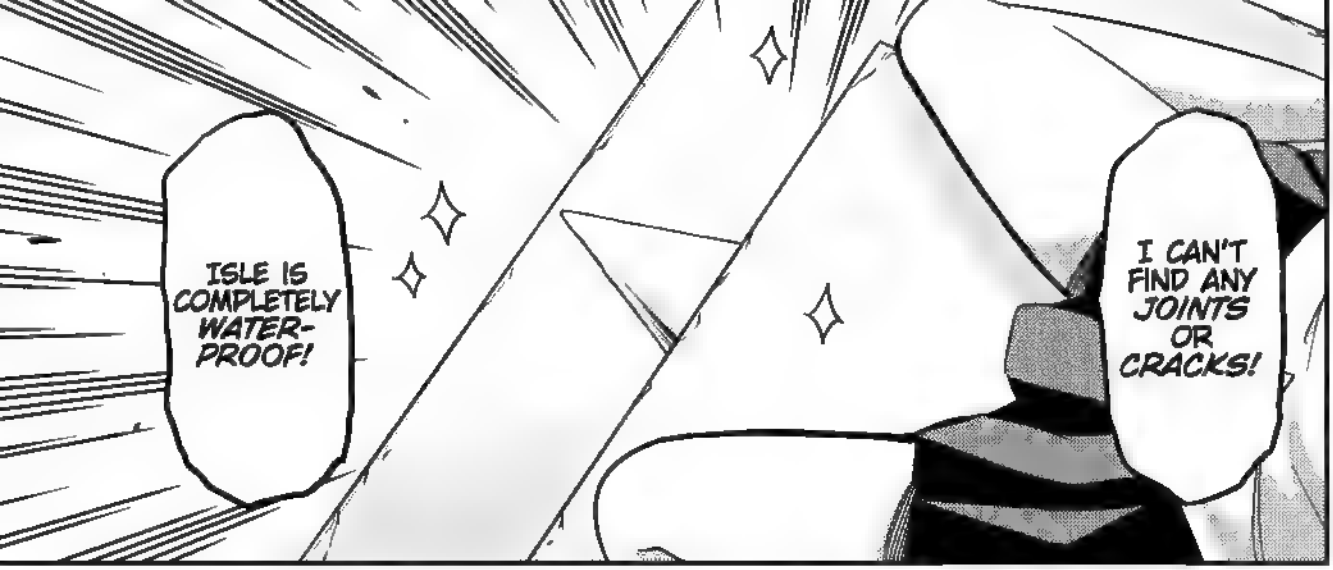

MOST MECHANICAL BEINGS ARE WEAK AGAINST WATER.
NO...! YOU AREN'T GOING TO--?!
BZZK
BZZK
BZZK
YEP! I'M GOING TO DUMP WATER ALL OVER ISLE AND MAKE HIM SHORT OUT! THAT SHOULD STOP HIM!
SILENCE
BUT IF YOU DID THAT, ISLE WOULD BE DESTROYED...
YES, BUT AT THIS RATE, IT WILL STILL WIND UP SEALED AWAY FOREVER!

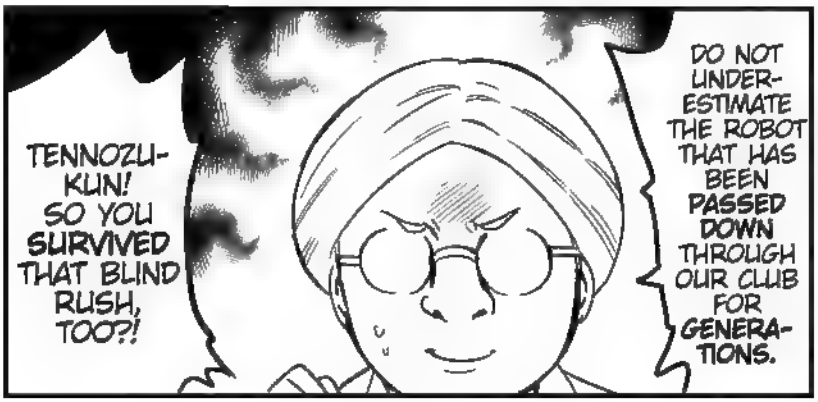
IT PAINS ME TO SAY IT, BUT WE HAVE NO CHOICE!
ZOOOOM
LEAVE IT TO ME! ♪
NOW, HOW ARE YOU GOING TO SPLASH ISLE WHILE IT'S GOING BERSERK--

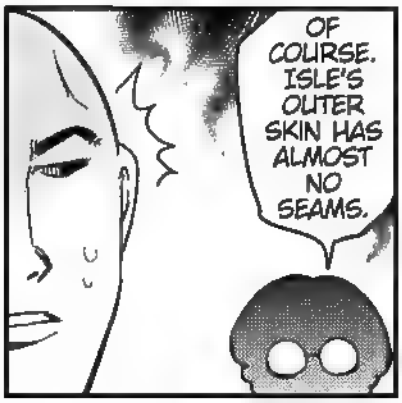
YAH!
YOU'RE GONNA CLIMB IT?!
HUP!

BOYS! ALL OF YOU CLOSE YOUR EYES, RIGHT NOW!!
Oof!
WAIT, WHAT ABOUT HER SKIRT --?!
HUH?
WE MIGHT RUN INTO SOME-THING!
B-BUT IF WE DO THAT...

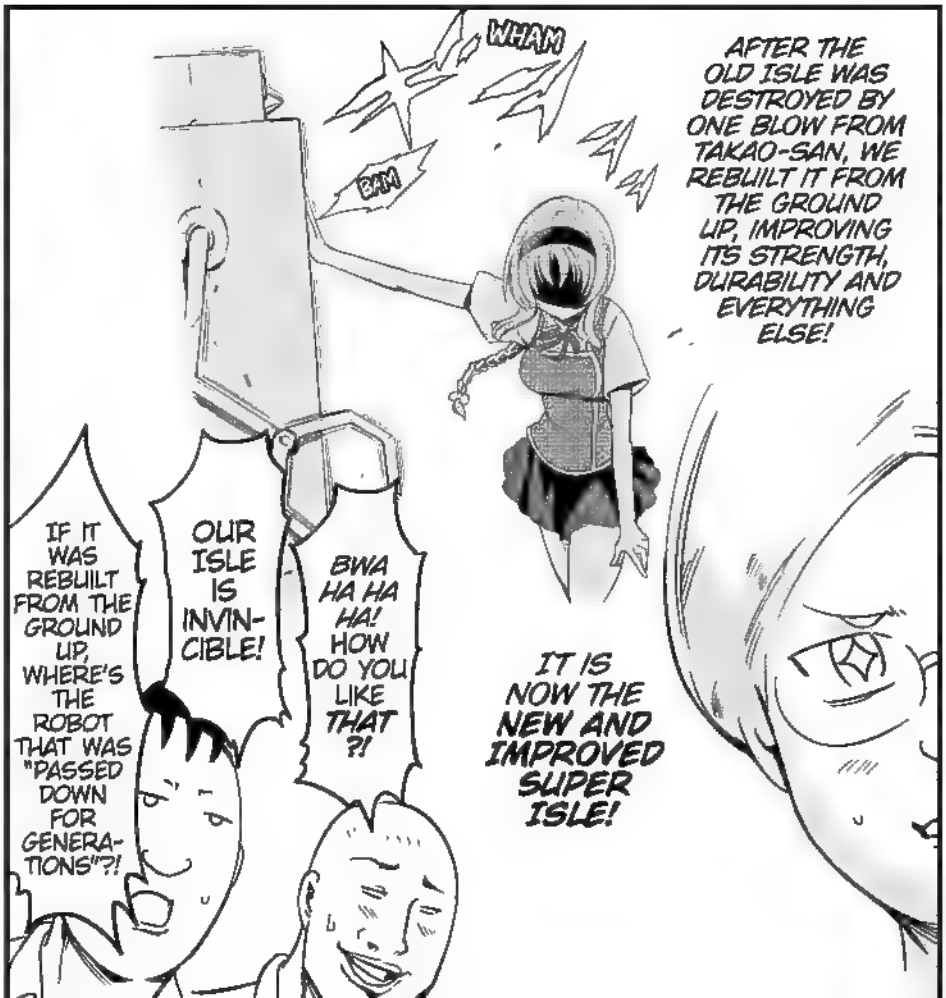
NOW YOU TELL US!!
OH! IN CASE YOU WERE WONDERING, I HAVE SHORTS ON UNDER-NEATH MY SKIRT.
N-NO! NO, WE JUST HAVE A VERY GOOD SENSE OF DIRECTION!
AND THAT MEANS EVERY BOY STILL STANDING WAS TRYING TO LOOK UP HER SKIRT...
CRAP! WITH THAT, WE'VE LOST A CONSIDER-ABLE CHUNK OF OUR FIGHTING FORCE!
WHAT'S WRONG?
UMM...
AW
OKAY! TIME TO GIVE ISLE A LITTLE BATH AND SHORT HIM OUT!
WITH MY LOVELY WATER BOTTLE HERE, I'LL...
QUIT TALKING AND DO IT!

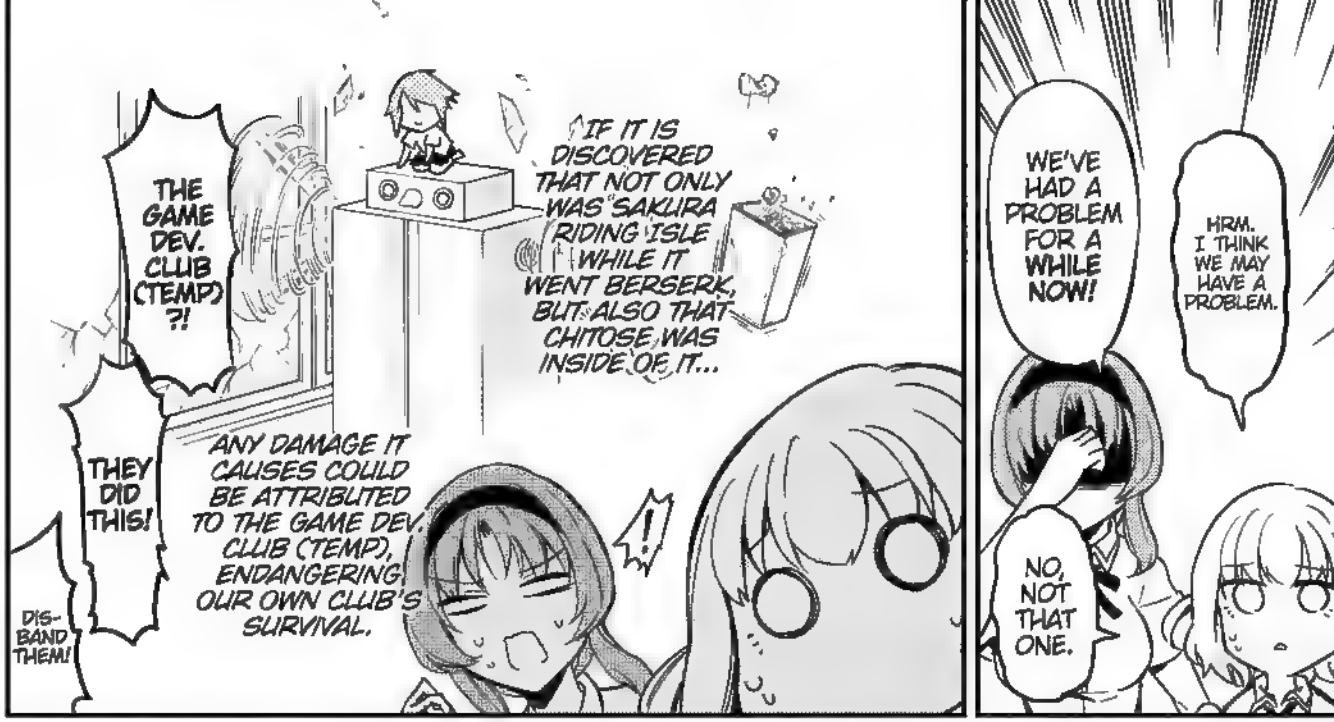

I CAN'T FIND ANY JOINTS OR CRACKS!
ISLE IS COMPLETELY WATER-PROOF!


TENNOZU-KUN! SO YOU SURVIVED THAT BLIND RUSH, TOO?!
DO NOT UNDER-ESTIMATE THE ROBOT THAT HAS BEEN PASSED DOWN THROUGH OUR CLUB FOR GENERA-TIONS.


OF COURSE. ISLE'S OUTER SKIN HAS ALMOST NO SEAMS.

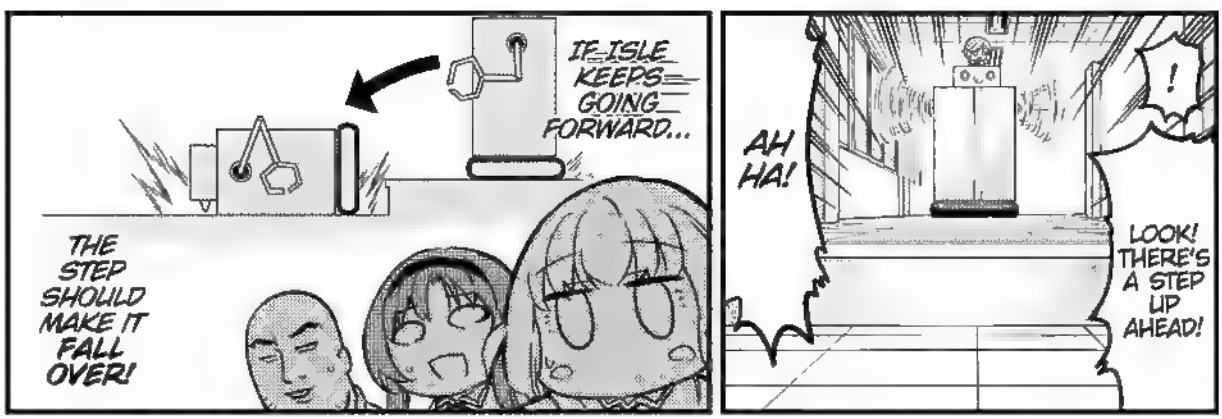
!
Sniff...
IT'S NOT THAT TAKAO-SAN IS SUPER STRONG OR ANYTHING, THE ALPHA VERSION ISLE WAS JUST, YOU KNOW, FRAGILE!
YEAH! LIKE A WET PAPER BAG!


WHAM
BAM
AFTER THE OLD ISLE WAS DESTROYED BY ONE BLOW FROM TAKAO-SAN, WE REBUILT IT FROM THE GROUND UP, IMPROVING ITS STRENGTH, DURABILITY AND EVERYTHING ELSE!
IT IS NOW THE NEW AND IMPROVED SUPER ISLE!
BWA HA HA HA! HOW DO YOU LIKE THAT ?!
OUR ISLE IS INVIN-CIBLE!
IF IT WAS REBUILT FROM THE GROUND UP, WHERE'S THE ROBOT THAT WAS "PASSED DOWN FOR GENERA-TIONS"?!

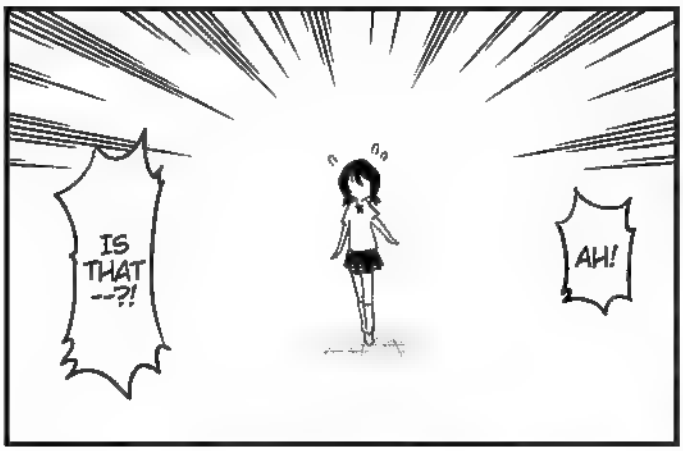

THE GAME DEV. CLUB (TEMP) ?!
THEY DID THIS!
DIS-BAND THEM!
IF IT IS DISCOVERED THAT NOT ONLY WAS SAKURA RIDING ISLE WHILE IT WENT BERSERK, BUT ALSO THAT CHITOSE WAS INSIDE OF IT...
ANY DAMAGE IT CAUSES COULD BE ATTRIBUTED TO THE GAME DEV. CLUB (TEMP), ENDANGERING OUR OWN CLUB'S SURVIVAL.
!
WE'VE HAD A PROBLEM FOR A WHILE NOW!
HRM. I THINK WE MAY HAVE A PROBLEM.
NO, NOT THAT ONE.

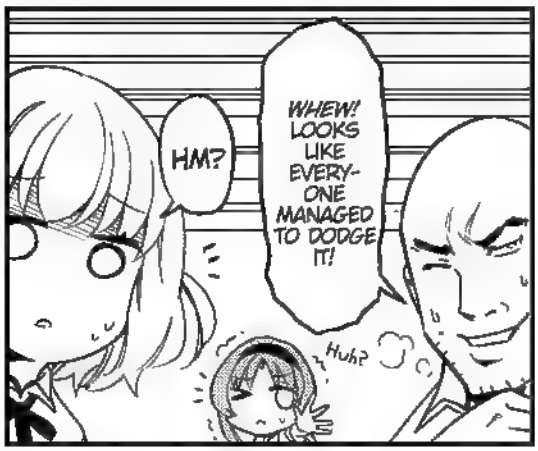
Wait? Is this all the page time I get?
Make a list of...
No... wait. Maybe something can be arranged...
YOU'LL HAVE TO GIVE UP ON THE CLUB.
I'M AFRAID ERASING EVERYBODY'S MEMORIES IN REGARD TO THAT EVENT IS MORE THAN I CAN HANDLE.

OH.
NOW SHE'S WORRIED.
Aaa aaa aah!!


IF ISLE KEEPS GOING FORWARD...
THE STEP SHOULD MAKE IT FALL OVER!
AH HA!
!
LOOK! THERE'S A STEP UP AHEAD!

FREEZE
CHITOSE! YOU MUST ...
ERM, BRACE YOUR-SELF!
SAKURA! YOU MUST JUMP OFF ISLE! NOW!
ROGER!
HUH?
VREEEE
EEEE
IT'S BACK-ING UP!!
HERE IT COMES!
EVERY-ONE GET OUT OF ITS WAY!
DID YOU REALLY NEED TO PUT IN THAT FEATURE?!
ISLE IS INCAPABLE OF TRAVERSING STAIRS, SO I INSTALLED A SENSOR AND AN AUTOMATIC BACKUP PROGRAM!


IS THAT --?!
AH!

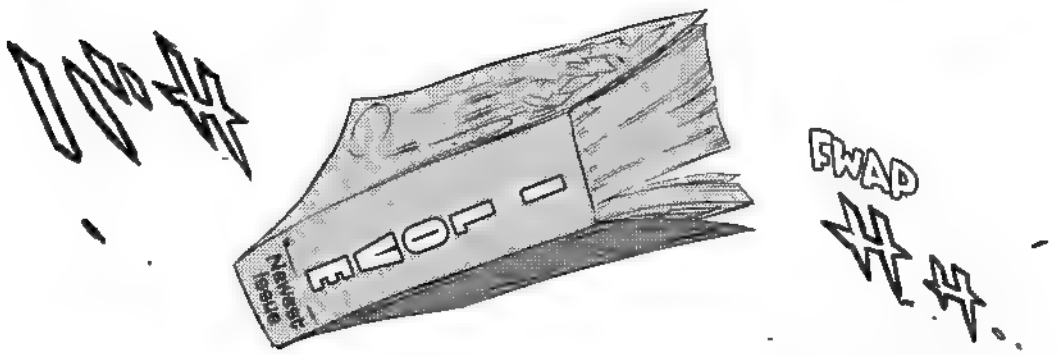

HM?
WHEW! LOOKS LIKE EVERY-ONE MANAGED TO DODGE IT!
Huh?

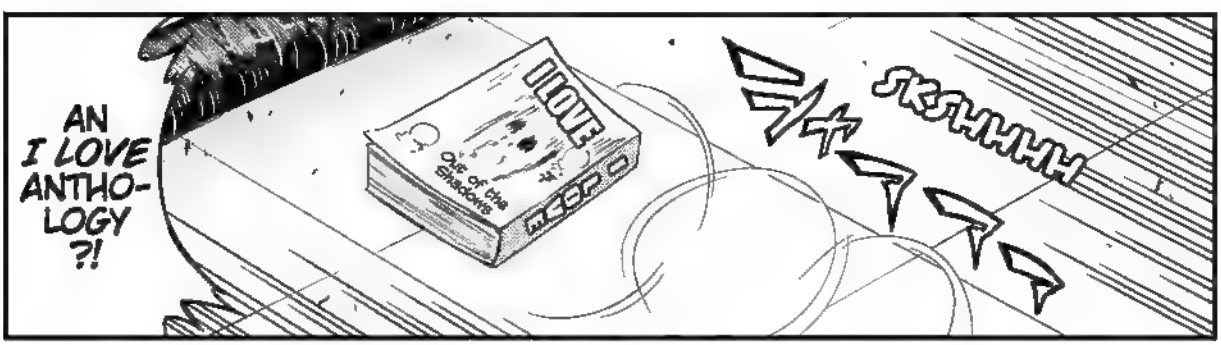
FUNABORI FOLLOWED THE RULES AND DIDN'T RUN IN THE HALLS! WHAT A ROLE MODEL!
IT'S FUNA-BORI!
IT ISN'T SAFE!
TP スタ TP スタ
UM, EVERY-ONE? YOU MUSTN'T RUN IN THE HALL-WAYS!
TP スタ TP スタ TP スタ

HM?
FOLLOW-ING SCHOOL RULES IS GREAT, BUT YOU HAVE TO RUN!!! NOW!!

AH!
FUNA-BORI, LOOK OUT! YOU'RE IN DANGER!!
ゴゴゴゴ
RUMBLE

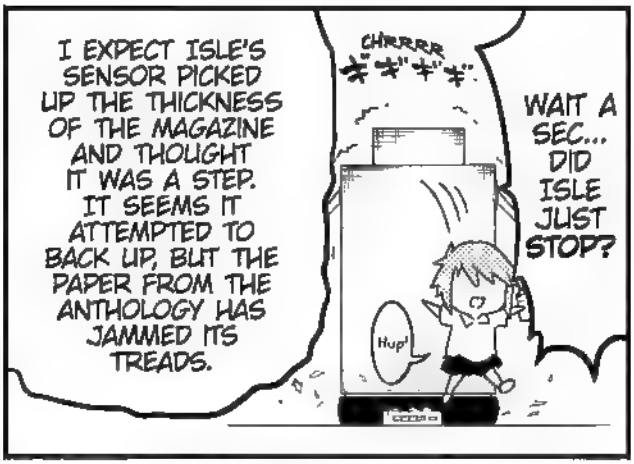
RUUUUUN!!
DOOO
OOOM

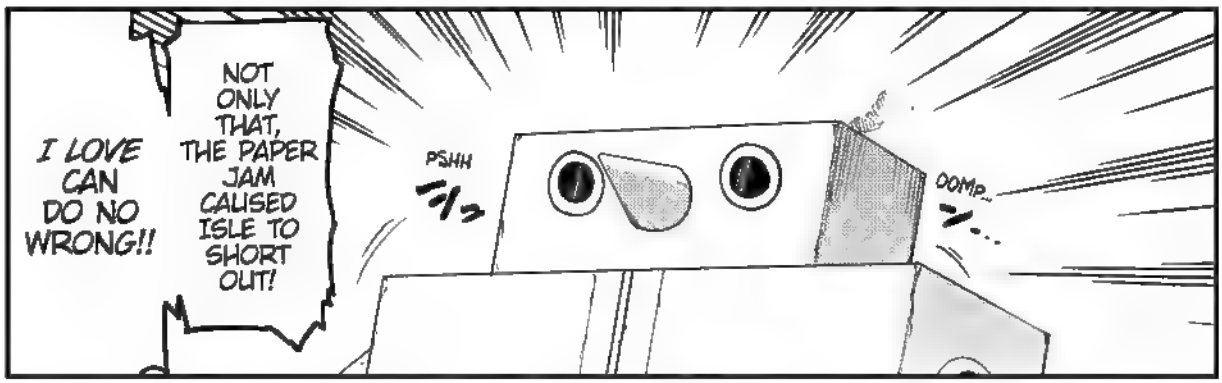

Newest Issue
FWAP


AN I LOVE ANTHO-LOGY ?!
I LOVE
One of the Shadows
SKSHHHH

AUGH!! IT'S GETTING SHRED-DED!!
SHWAP
SHWAP
I LOVE
Out of the Shadows
Newest issue
SHWAP

ER, RIGHT. IT IS A GREAT MAGA-ZINE, BUT...
IN OTHER WORDS, I LOVE IS AMAZ-ING!


I EXPECT ISLE'S SENSOR PICKED UP THE THICKNESS OF THE MAGAZINE AND THOUGHT IT WAS A STEP. IT SEEMS IT ATTEMPTED TO BACK UP, BUT THE PAPER FROM THE ANTHOLOGY HAS JAMMED ITS TREADS.
CHRRRR
WAIT A SEC... DID ISLE JUST STOP?
Hup!


I LOVE CAN DO NO WRONG!!
NOT ONLY THAT, THE PAPER JAM CAUSED ISLE TO SHORT OUT!
PSHH
OOMP...

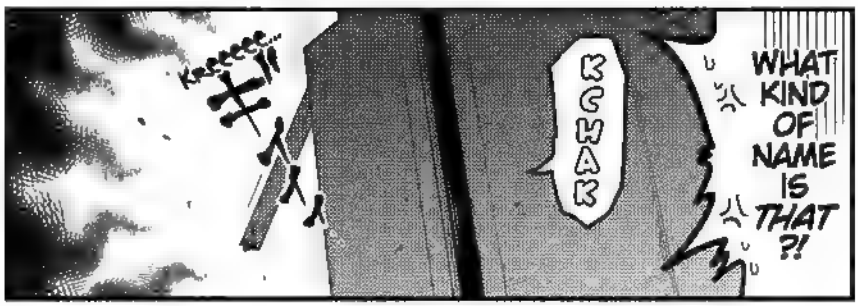
I'D JUST GOT THAT ISSUE, TOO.

WAS IT THROWN THERE?
WAIT A MINUTE... WHERE DID THAT MAGAZINE COME FROM?

I WANTED TO READ THE NEXT CHAPTER OF *SEVERING CLIMB EDGE H* SO I WENT ALL THE WAY TO THE CAFETERIA TO GET IT.
AH WELL. TOO LATE NOW.
STILL, I WANNA KNOW WHERE THE STORY'S GONNA GO NEXT.
IT ENDED ON A REALLY **BIG CLIFF-HANGER,** TOO.
KA...
KA...
DAMMIT! NOW I'M REALLY CURIOUS.
KA...
I GUESS I'LL BUY A COPY ON THE WAY HOME.
KA...
KA...
KA...
HM?

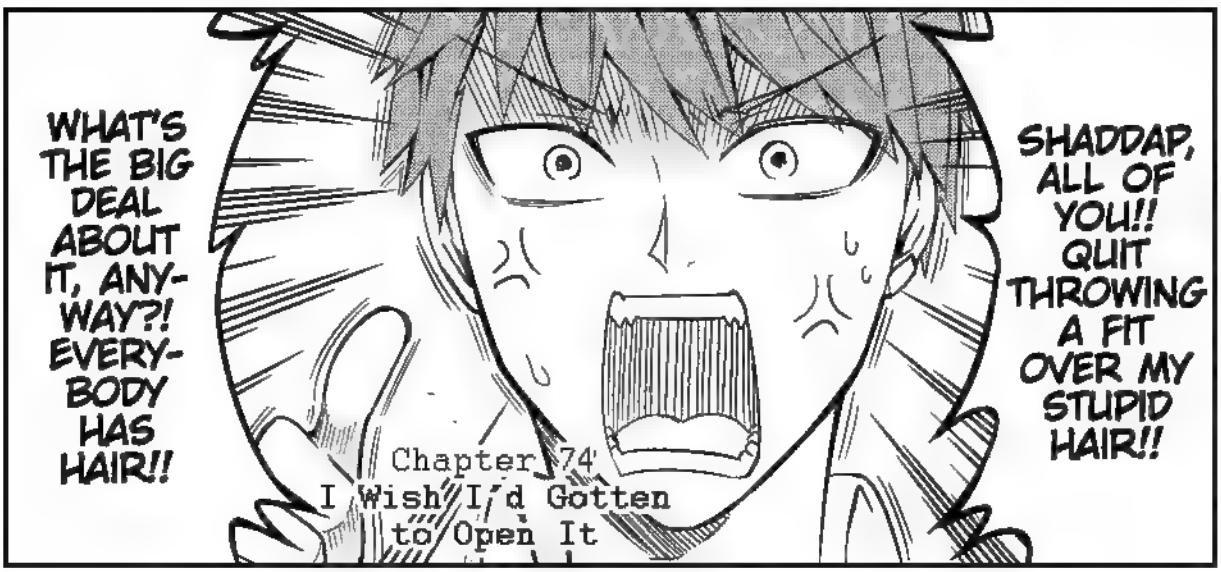
KAZA-MA-SAN?!
EH?
HUH? W-WAIT... YOUR HAIR...?

HAIR-IMA-SAN?!
Y-Y-Y-YOUR H-H-HAAAA... KA...MA... HA-HA-HAIR...!

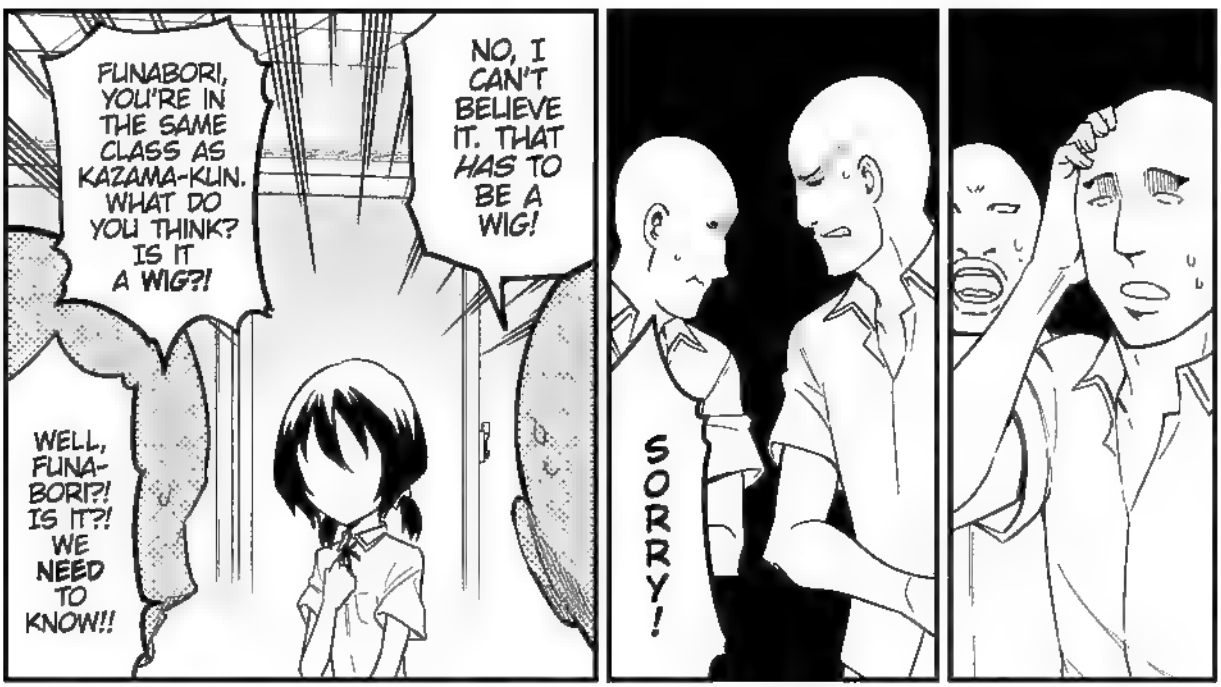

KCHAK
WHAT KIND OF NAME IS THAT?!

D-FRAGMENTS
ディーフラグメンツ!

PREVIOUSLY ON D-FRAG!
LOOK AT HIS HEAD! IT'S SPIKY AGAIN!
PREVIOUSLY ON D-FRAG!
OHMIGOD, OHMIGOD, OHMIGOD! HIS HAIR, HIS HAAAA-////R!!
HAHAHA! NAW, IT CAN'T BE... WAIT, REALLY?!
IT'S ALL GROWN BACK! I KNEW IT WOULD GROW BACK! SEE?!
PREVIOUSLY ON D-FRAG!
LOOK AT KAZAMA-SAN'S HAIR!!

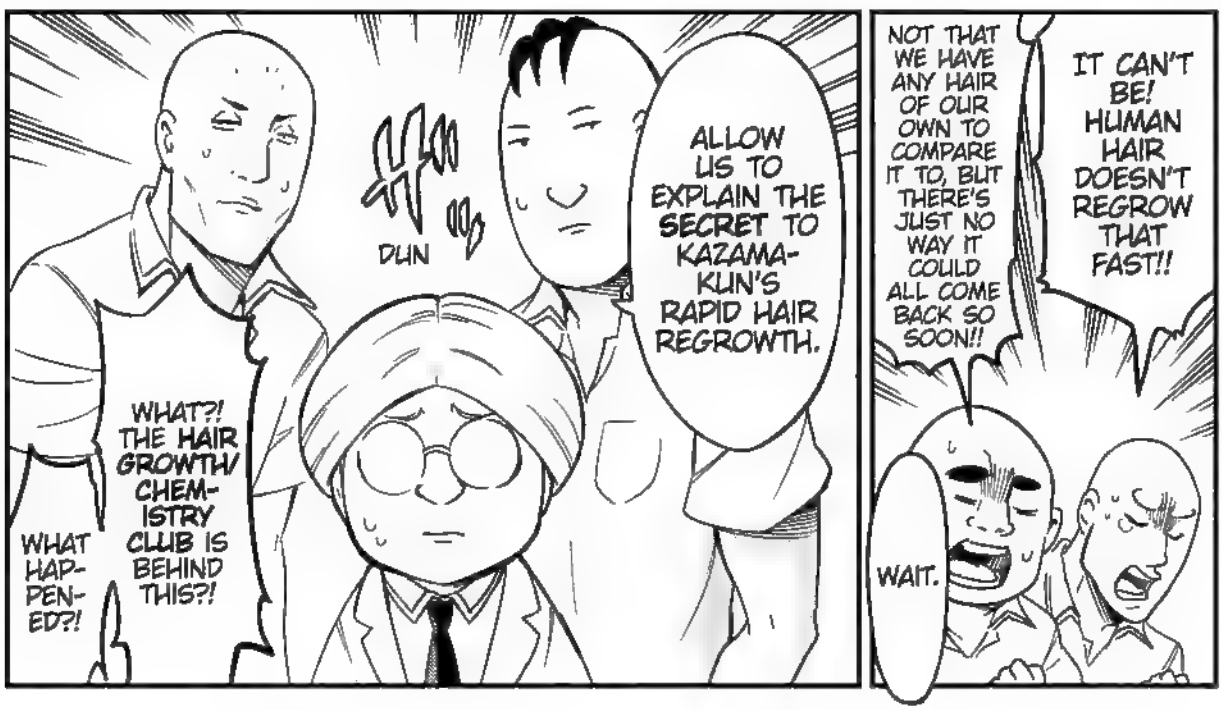


Chapter 74
I Wish I'd Gotten to Open It

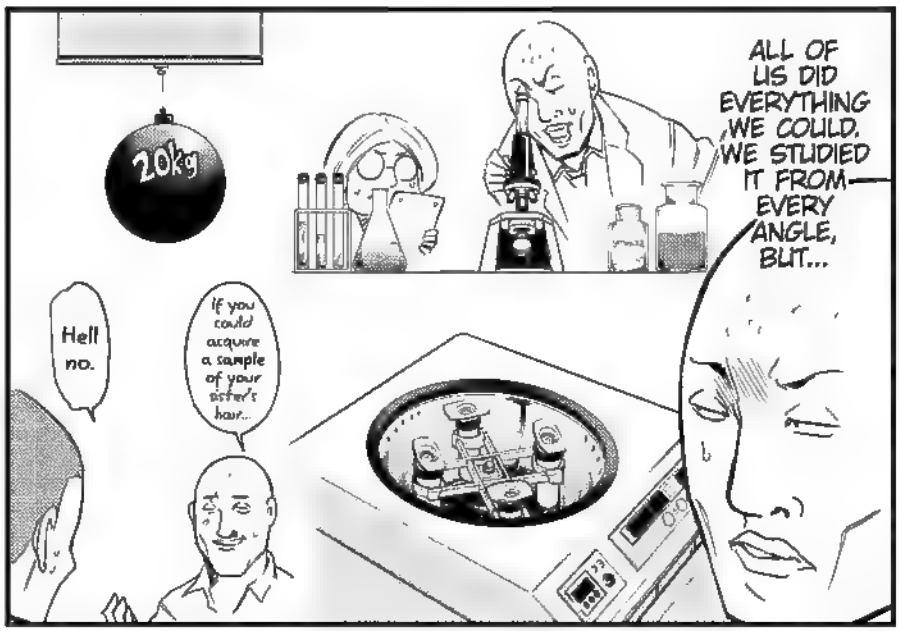

FUNABORI, YOU'RE IN THE SAME CLASS AS KAZAMA-KUN. WHAT DO YOU THINK? IS IT A WIG?!
NO, I CAN'T BELIEVE IT. THAT HAS TO BE A WIG!
WELL, FUNA-BORI?! IS IT?! WE NEED TO KNOW!!
SORRY!

WAIT. I'M IN THE SAME CLASS, TOO. ALLOW ME TO EXPLAIN.
DUN
WE GET OHORI, NOT FUNA-BORI?!
WHAT, OHORI?! OHORI'S GONNA EX-PLAIN?!
UM, KAZAMA-SAN? THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR SAVING ME AGAIN.
UH, FUNA-BORI? HELLO-OOO?! ANSWER THE QUEST-ION!!
OH, BUT THANKING PEOPLE FIRST IS THE POLITE THING TO DO! SORRY, FUNABORI!

NO WAY!! THAT'S HIS REAL HAIR?!
I WIT-NESSED ITS RAPID AND STARTLING REGROWTH WITH MY OWN TWO EYES!
I CAN VOUCH THAT KAZAMA-KUN'S HAIR IS THE REAL THING!


WHAT HAP-PEN-ED?!
WHAT?! THE HAIR GROWTH/ CHEM-ISTRY CLUB IS BEHIND THIS?!
DUN
ALLOW US TO EXPLAIN THE SECRET TO KAZAMA-KUN'S RAPID HAIR REGROWTH.
IT CAN'T BE! HUMAN HAIR DOESN'T REGROW THAT FAST!!
NOT THAT WE HAVE ANY HAIR OF OUR OWN TO COMPARE IT TO, BUT THERE'S JUST NO WAY IT COULD ALL COME BACK SO SOON!!
WAIT.

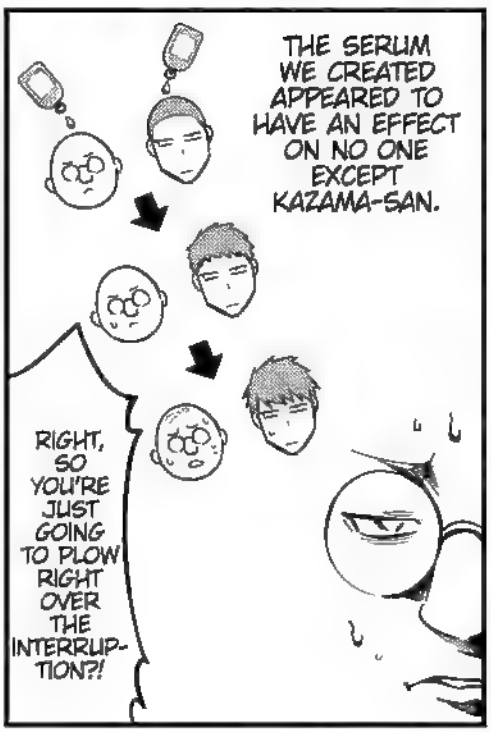
GIVEN THE MULTITUDE OF LEGENDS SURROUNDING KAZAMA-KUN AND HIS POWERFUL HAIR, WE HAVE BEEN WATCHING HIM FOR A LONG TIME.
Ow!
So stiff!
It's, like, super prickly!
KAZAMA-KUN'S HAIR IS LEGEN-DARY.
AH. THE LEG-ENDS.
UH, COULD YOU TRY REMEM-BERING MY FACE, TOO?!
YOU SEE, KAZAMA-KUN WAS ASSISTING US WITH OUR RESEARCH ON A NEW HAIR GROWTH FORMULA!
Huh? You're just gonna blab the whole thing?!
RESEARCH? NEW HAIR-REGROWTH FORMULA? YOU HAVE OUR ATTENTION!! PLEASE CONTINUE!!
ANYWAY, THEY CAME TO ME AND I DECIDED TO HELP THEM OUT.
Who the hell are you guys?
We are a group of individuals with vested interest in your unusual hair. We shall reward you handsomely for your assistance!
Sure. It's just hair. Why not?
What do you mean "just hair"?!
CAFETERIA COUPONS
IT SOUNDS TO ME LIKE THEY BOUGHT YOU OFF!
STAAAAARE
OH MY GOSH, I'M SORRY! KAZAMA-SAN HAS FINALLY RETURNED, YET I MADE THE COMEBACK IN HIS STEAD...!
SLUMP
LIKE I CARE! ANYONE CAN MAKE A COME-BACK!
AH!!


20kg
Hell no.
If you could acquire a sample of your sister's hair..
ALL OF US DID EVERYTHING WE COULD. WE STUDIED IT FROM EVERY ANGLE, BUT...

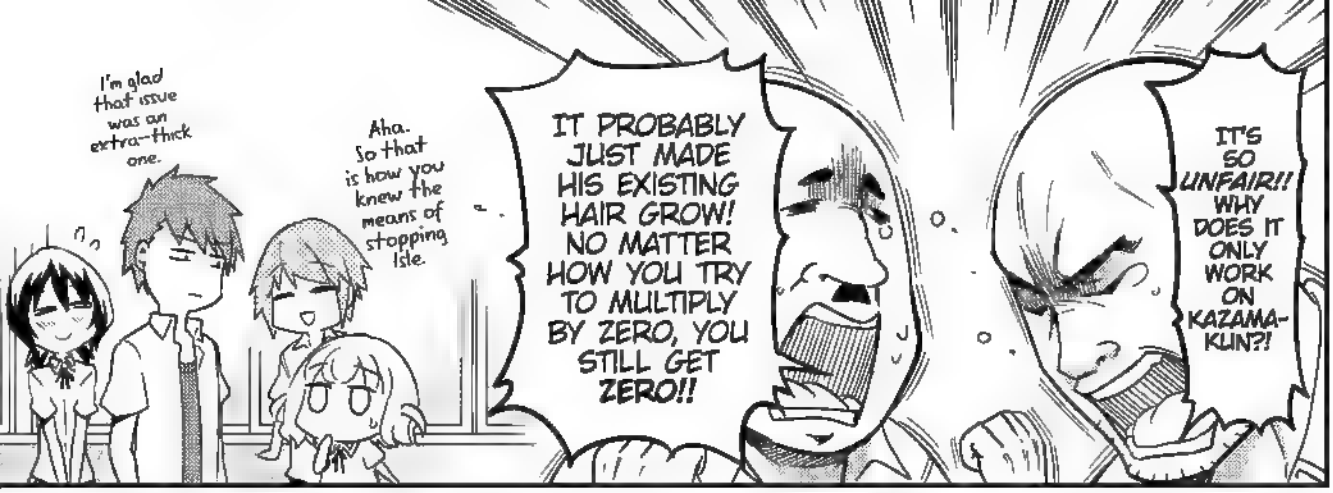
SO IT WAS IT SUCCESS-FUL?!
FORGET KAZAMA-KUN AND HIS COME-BACKS! WHAT ABOUT THE HAIR FORMULA?!
IS THAT ALL YOU BALDIES CARE ABOUT?

YOU CAN SEE THE RESULTS FOR YOURSELF...!
AAAAUGH!! WE WERE FOOLS FOR EXPECTING ANYTHING FROM A SCHOOL CLUB FULL OF AMATEUR SCIENTISTS!
AT LEAST THEY TRIED TO FIND A SOLUTION, INSTEAD OF MOPING AROUND LIKE THE REST OF YOU!

OOH! KAZAMA-SAN IS FINALLY GETTING BACK IN THE GAME! ♪
WOULD YOU QUIT INTER-RUPTING EVERY PANEL?! IT'S BEEN A WHILE, OKAY?! I'M OUT OF SHAPE! TALKING THIS MUCH IS EXHAUSTING ME!


THE SERUM WE CREATED APPEARED TO HAVE AN EFFECT ON NO ONE EXCEPT KAZAMA-SAN.
RIGHT, SO YOU'RE JUST GOING TO PLOW RIGHT OVER THE INTERRUP-TION?!

AH! I DID IT AGAIN! I MADE A COME-BACK BEFORE KAZAMA-SAN COULD...
I SAID I DON'T CARE! NOW STOP INTER-RUPT-ING THE CONVER-SATION!


I'm glad that issue was an extra-thick one.
Aha. So that is how you knew the means of stopping Isle.
IT PROBABLY JUST MADE HIS EXISTING HAIR GROW! NO MATTER HOW YOU TRY TO MULTIPLY BY ZERO, YOU STILL GET ZERO!!
IT'S SO UNFAIR!! WHY DOES IT ONLY WORK ON KAZAMA-KUN?!

ARE YOU SAYING OUR CLUB IS A WASTE OF TIME?!
I FIGURED THIS WAS A BETTER USE OF MY TIME.
And I got free food.
IT'S NOT LIKE THERE WAS ANYTHING FOR ME TO DO AT CLUB, ANYWAY.
HMPH. SO YOU SKIP OUT ON CLUB TO TAKE PART IN THIS SECRET EXPERIMENT? ONE THAT BORE NO HAIR--I MEAN FRUIT, EITHER!

WOW! SHE HASN'T BEEN LISTENING TO A WORD ANYBODY SAID! AND WHAT'S WITH THAT LOOK?! IT'S NOT LIKE I WAS A MISSING PERSON OR ANYTHING!
UM... I-IT'S BEEN A WHILE, KAZAMA. WELCOME BACK.

SHE'S NOT EVEN IN OUR CLUB!!
DID YOU HEAR WHAT HE JUST SAID, TAKAO-SAN?! CAN YOU BELIEVE HIM?!

SO! WHAT THE HECK WERE YOU ALL DOING HERE IN THE HALL? AND WHY IN SUCH A BIG GROUP?
AH WELL. WHATEVER. STARTING TOMORROW, I'LL BE BACK AT CLUB LIKE NORMAL.

?
YOU SEE, WE--
AH! THAT'S RIGHT!
WHAT?!

ISLE IS ALREADY OPEN?!
SWOOOOOOO

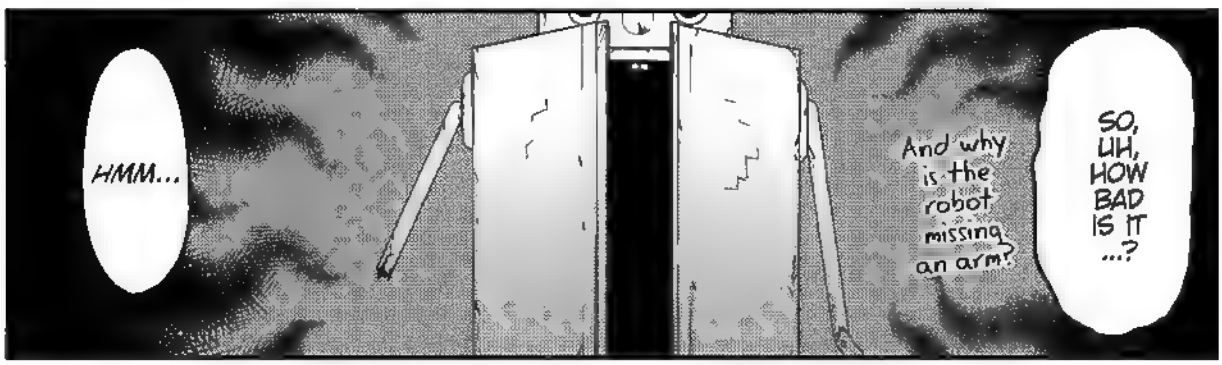
?!
HUH?! WHA?!
OH NO!! AAAA-AAH!!

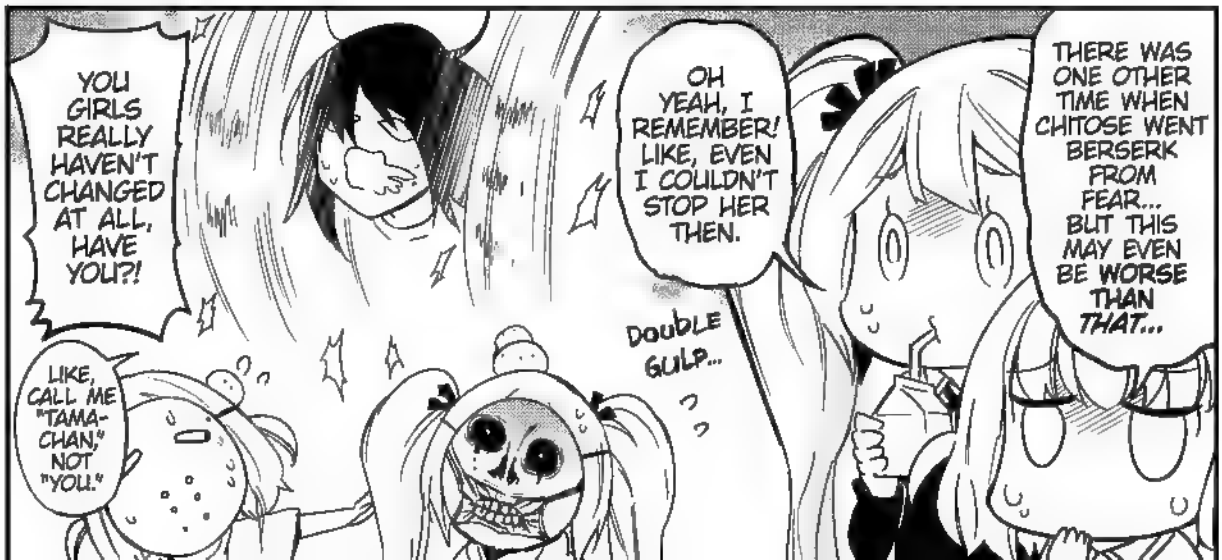
HUH?! NO WAY! I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S IN THERE, BUT I CAN GUESS IT'S REALLY BAD!!
WOULD YOU PLEASE LOOK INSIDE ISLE FOR US?
KAZAMA-SAN, I HAVE A REQUEST ...

THIS CREEPY AND DISTURBING AURA... KAZAMA-SAN IS THE ONLY ONE WHOM WE CAN TRUST TO RESCUE HER!
WAIT, WHAT?! THERE'S SOMEONE INSIDE THERE?!
PLEE-EEASE, SEMPAI?
YOU DO REALIZE SOME NAMELESS NPC JUST HINTED THAT IT'S REALLY BAD, RIGHT?!
SORRY. THERE'S NO WAY I'M OPENING IT, SO...
IF YOU DON'T WANNA, I DON'T WANNA EITHER! AND WHO ARE YOU, ANYWAY?!
E'heh heh...
PLEASE DO IT, KAZAMA-SAN!
AND YOU JUST DON'T GIVE UP!
YEAH! IT'S BETTER-- AND SAFER-- IF YOU DON'T, KAZAMA-KUN!
YOU LOT JUST GO WITH WHAT EVERYBODY ELSE SAYS, DON'T YOU?!
IT'S NOT LIKE YOU HAVE TO IF YOU DON'T WANT, KAZAMA.
HUH?! HOLD ON, TELL ME WHO'S IN THERE!
AND THAT'S TAMA-CHAN TO YOU.
SHE MIGHT BE TOO MUCH FOR EVEN YOU, KAZAMA-CHAN.
AUGH !!
I've been watching the whoole time.
BE CAREFUL. AFTER ALL THAT, CHI-CHAN'S PROBABLY, LIKE, TOTALLY PSYCHO.
WAIT A SEC... "CHI-CHAN"? THE STUDENT COUNCIL PREZ IS IN THERE?!
TAMA-SEMPAI, WHEN DID YOU GET HERE?!
Tokyo NANANA au lait

OKAY! OKAY! I'LL DO IT! HAPPY NOW?!
OH GOOD. IT'S NICE TO SEE THAT KAZAMA-SAN IS AS EASILY MANIPULATED AS ALWAYS.
WHAT ?!
Totally!
AND I'M JUST DOING IT SO THAT THIS WHOLE LONG, CONVOLUTED MESS CAN BE OVER AND DONE WITH!!
I WANNA GO READ THE NEXT ISSUE OF I LOVE!

SO, IF IT ISN'T BECAUSE WE TRICKED YOU... ARE YOU DOING IT OUT OF KINDNESS FOR ME?
I JUST SAID IT'S SO I CAN GO READ THAT MANGA!!
AND THAT LOOK DOESN'T WORK ON ME!!!


SO, UH, HOW BAD IS IT ...?
And why is the robot missing an arm?
HMM...


THERE WAS ONE OTHER TIME WHEN CHITOSE WENT BERSERK FROM FEAR... BUT THIS MAY EVEN BE WORSE THAN THAT...
OH YEAH, I REMEMBER! LIKE, EVEN I COULDN'T STOP HER THEN.
Double gulp...
YOU GIRLS REALLY HAVEN'T CHANGED AT ALL, HAVE YOU?!
LIKE, CALL ME "TAMA-CHAN," NOT "YOU."

BAAAAARF!
THOUGH, COME TO THINK OF IT. WITH ALL THE MOVING ISLE WAS DOING...
?!
I KINDA DOUBT THAT.
I DON'T THINK SO.
YEAH, NO.
?!
We should hurry and rescue her!
I'M SURE SHE MUST BE FEELING SCARED AND LONELY AFTER BEING TRAPPED INSIDE ISLE FOR SO LONG!
UH, NO. YOU TWO GET BACK. THE POINT IS TO RESCUE HER, NOT GIVE HER MORE TRAUMATIC MEMORIES.
DO NOT BE AFRAID. WE SHALL DO OUR BEST TO BACK YOU UP.
You don't want to...?
EW, GROSS! MAYBE I WON'T OPEN THAT THING UP AFTER ALL.
KREEEEEEEEEEEEK
!!

WAIT A SEC... WAS FUNABORI RIGHT?!
POUNCE
HUH?!
OR NOT!!

AND STOP SPEAK-ING GIB-BERISH.
H-HEY ... LEGGO ...

I WISH I'D GOTTEN TO OPEN IT.
NO, ME!
NO, MEEEE!

OW! N-NOT SO TIGHT!
OKAY! OKAY! WHAT-EVER, JUST GET OFF ME!

CHI-TOSE, WHY DON'T YOU LET GO OF HIM?
TO-TALLY.
SHAKE
SHAKE
SHAKE
C'MON, GET OFF THE POOR GUY.
YOU SHOULD LET GO...
KYUUUUU
KYUUUUU
WAAAA!!
HOW COME HE GETS IT SO GOOD?! IS HE THE MAIN CHARACTER OF A HAREM MANGA OR SOMETHING?!
GET OFF OF HIM!!
STAB

PSHUU
YEAH.
Pshuuu
KAZA-MA?
Pshuuu
PSHUUUU...
UM...
UM?

THE PAIN OF STABBING HER HAND ON HIS HAIR BROUGHT HER BACK TO EARTH!!
KA-POW
YOU HAVE TO BE SOME KIND OF MONSTER FOR YOUR HAIR TO GROW BACK THAT FAST!!

HUFF HUFF

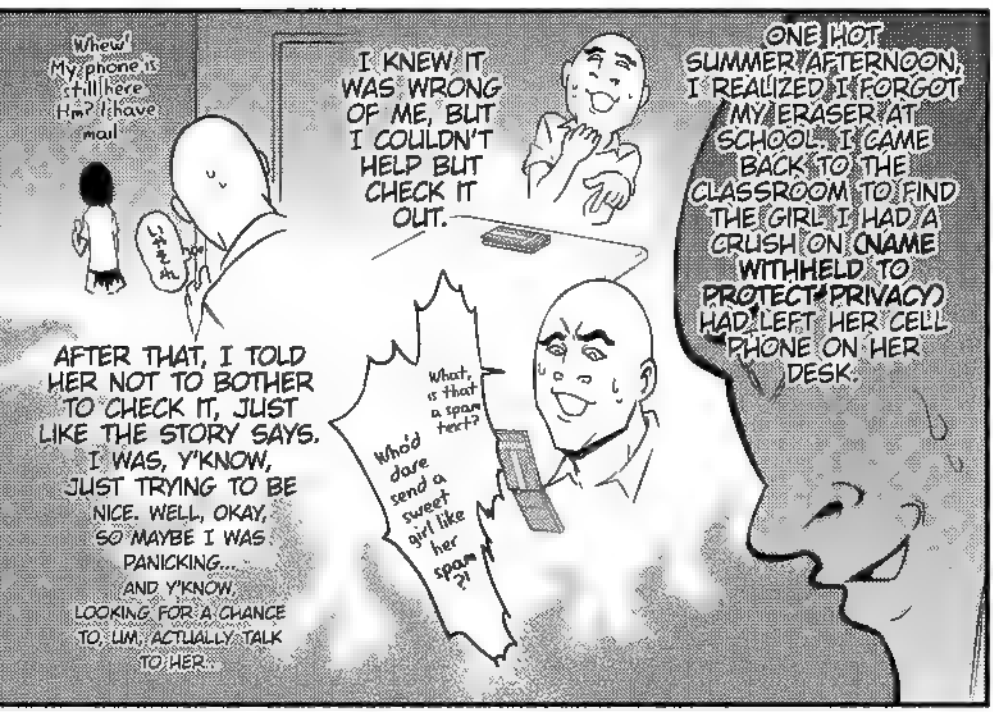
KAZA-MA-SAN?!
SKSHHHH

HM? YES WHAT?
Y-YEAH ...
THAT'S RIGHT ...

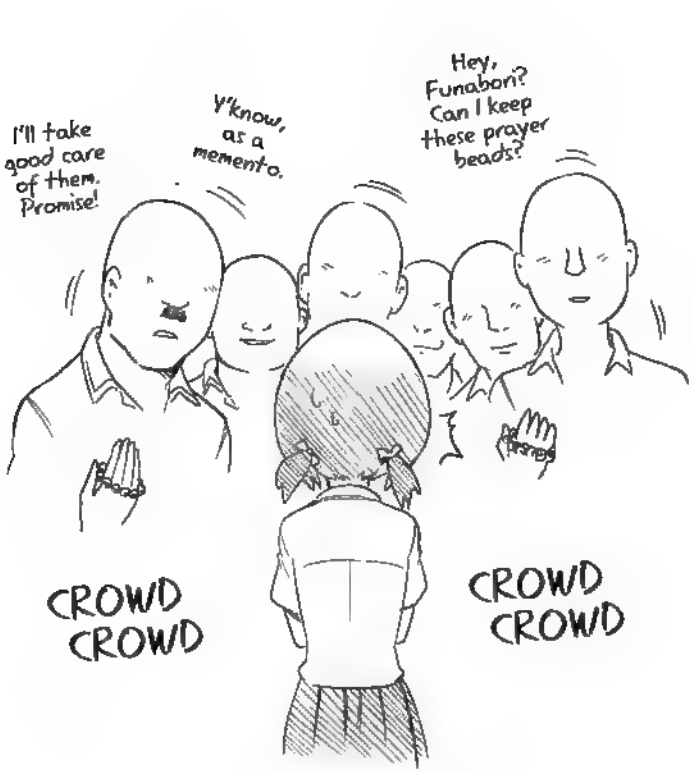
HUFF
HUFF

I-IF I CAN PUNCH OUT MONSTERS AND STUFF, TH-TH-THAT MEANS I CAN PUNCH OUT GHOSTS, TOO... RIGHT...?
HUH? NO. THERE ARE MAJOR MATERIAL DIFFERENCES BETWEEN--
WAIT! I MEAN YES! YOU CAN TOTALLY PUNCH OUT BOTH MONSTERS AND GHOSTS!!
HUFF
LOOKS LIKE SHE'S STILL FREAKED OUT!

ERM! OKAY, EVERYONE! THE ONLY MYSTERY LEFT IS #7, THE BALD MAN WHO STANDS BEHIND YOU AND TELLS YOU NOT TO BOTHER LOOKING AT SPAM!!
I BET THAT'S JUST ANOTHER RANDOM EVENT SOMEBODY BLEW OUT OF PROPORTION.
BUT WHERE THERE'S SMOKE, THERE'S FIRE!
EXCUSE ME, I'M TRYING TO CHANGE THE SUBJECT HERE!
UMM...


ONE HOT SUMMER AFTERNOON, I REALIZED I FORGOT MY ERASER AT SCHOOL. I CAME BACK TO THE CLASSROOM TO FIND THE GIRL I HAD A CRUSH ON (NAME WITHHELD TO PROTECT PRIVACY) HAD LEFT HER CELL PHONE ON HER DESK.
I KNEW IT WAS WRONG OF ME, BUT I COULDN'T HELP BUT CHECK IT OUT.
What, is that a spam text?
Who'd dare send a sweet girl like her spam?!
AFTER THAT, I TOLD HER NOT TO BOTHER TO CHECK IT, JUST LIKE THE STORY SAYS. I WAS, Y'KNOW, JUST TRYING TO BE NICE. WELL, OKAY, SO MAYBE I WAS PANICKING... AND Y'KNOW, LOOKING FOR A CHANCE TO, UM, ACTUALLY TALK TO HER.
Whew! My phone is still here. Hm? I have mail
Let me see
THAT BALD MAN WAS ME.
YOU?!

AND THAT'S IT FOR THE FUJOU ACADEMY SEVEN MYSTERIES!!
FEEL MY FIST, GHOST !!
SKSHHHHH
THE HELL ...?
AND WITH THAT, I HEREBY DECLARE THE GHOST BUSTING CLUB DIS-BANDED!!


I'll take good care of them. Promise!
Y'know, as a memento.
Hey, Funabori? Can I keep these prayer beads?
CROWD CROWD
CROWD CROWD

D-FRAGMENTS
ディーフラグメンツ!

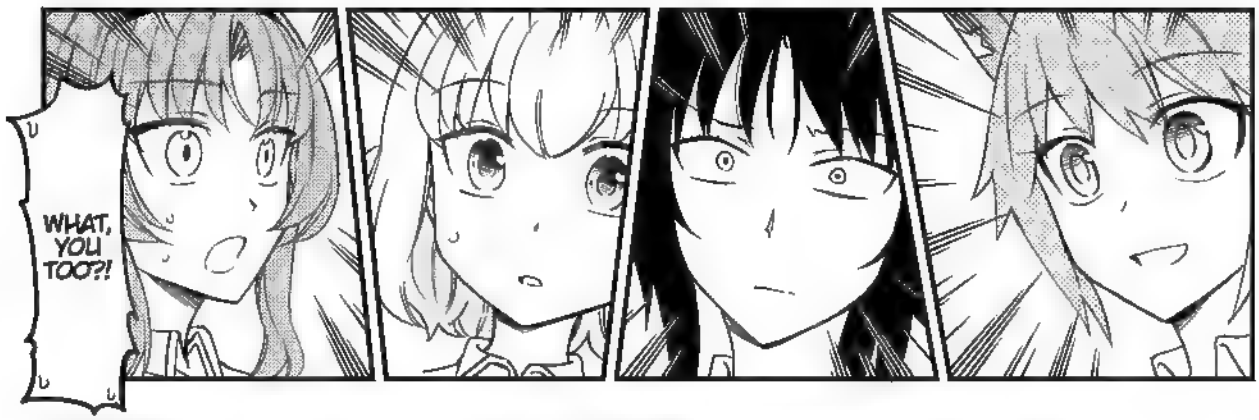
SO, UH... I GUESS WE'VE SUCCESS-FULLY SOLVED FUJUO'S SEVEN MYSTERIES.
HERE'S TO US!

I SAID WHO CARES!
SO, IN CELEBRATION OF KAZAMA-SAN'S RETURN TO OUR CLUB... ♪
AND KAZAMA-SEMPAI HAS COME BACK TO US SAFE AND SOUND, TOO!
WHO CARES ABOUT THAT?

CHEERS!
CHEERS!
.....

UH, I DON'T THINK I WAS AWAY ALL THAT LONG...
YEAH!
AND FOR-GETTING ALL OF THAT FOR A SECOND...

Chapter 75
That's It for the Flashback



WELL...
IT DOES SO MATTER! YOU THINK IT'S WEIRD, RIGHT, KAZAMA?
NOW, NOW, TAKAO-SAN.
GET OUT! NOW!
WE'VE ALREADY HAD THE TOAST. WHAT'S IT MATTER NOW?
WH-WHY ARE YOU ALL THROWING A WELCOME BACK PARTY FOR KAZAMA IN OUR CLUB ROOM?!
ガタ
STOMP

WHAT, DID YOU SLACK OFF ON CLEANING OR SOMETHING?
Come to think of it, I never helped clean it either...
HUH?
YOU SEE, AT THE MOMENT OUR CLUB ROOM IS NOT FIT FOR USE...
YO.
ガラッ
...HOOP...
ACTUALLY, MINAMI-SENSEI CAME AND...
HM? I WAS UNDER THE IMPRESSION KAZAMA HAS BEEN COMING TO SCHOOL EVERY DAY LIKE ALWAYS... HASN'T HE?
YES! THAT'S RIGHT!
I keep saying we don't need to bother
IT'S A WELCOME BACK PARTY FOR KAZAMA-SAN.
HM? WHAT'RE YOU ALL DOING?
ハラリ...
EXIT.
WHAT IS IT?
ANYWAY, I WANT YOU ALL TO KEEP THIS IN THE CLUB ROOM FOR A WHILE.
ゴトッ
THNK
OH WELL.

DO-DOON
THAT...! IT'S THE MYSTERIOUS AND SLIGHTLY CREEPY CRYSTAL SKULL WE CAME ACROSS ON THE ISLAND!!
WHAT?! THAT MYSTICAL ARTIFACT HAS ACTUALLY POPPED UP IN THE MAIN PLOT AGAIN?!
IT'S JUST A KEY TO OPEN THAT ONE DOOR ON THAT ISLAND, BUT UH...
THINGS HAPPENED AND WE BROUGHT IT BACK WITH US.
WAIT, ARE YOU DOING A FLASHBACK WITHIN A FLASH-BACK?! THAT'S TOO CONFUSING!
OHSAWA-SENSEI, WOULD YOU PLEASE WATCH OVER THIS?
HUH? BUT NOW THAT IT OPENED THAT DOOR, ISN'T ITS JOB DONE?
I CANNOT SAY. IT SEEMS THIS CRYSTAL SKULL MAY YET HAVE OTHER USES.
THEN I THINK YOU SHOULD HOLD ONTO IT, CONNERY-SENSEI.
NO. IT WOULD DO NO GOOD FOR ME TO HAVE IT.
?

WHOA! NEVER MIND THOSE DUMB SCHOOL MYSTERIES, THERE WAS SOMETHING ACTUALLY AMAZING HAPPENING IN THE STAFF ROOM!!
WHAT?! THE SECOND OHSAWA-SENSEI TOUCHED IT, IT BEGAN TO GLOW!
?!
GLEEEEEAM
AND IT SEEMS THAT MYSTICAL LIGHT IMBUES THIS STONE TABLET WITH POWER.
SO, YOU WANT ME TO KEEP HOLDING IT?
AFTER OHSAWA-SENSEI BROKE ITS SEAL, I THOUGHT IT MIGHT REACT TO HER.
BUT SHE JUST SHOVED A PASTRY INTO ITS EYE-HOLE!!
LIM ...
COULD YOU PLEASE DO THAT SOME-WHERE ELSE?
YEAH, I FIGURED SOME-BODY'D ASK THAT!
.....
SO, I DECIDED TO COME HERE TO THE CLUB ROOM AND LET THIS THING CHARGE.
WHAT ?!
YOU'RE KIDD-ING !!

ACCORDINGLY, OUR CLUB ROOM IS MUCH TOO BRIGHT AND CAN'T BE USED RIGHT NOW.
GLEEAM
OH. WAIT, THAT'S IT FOR THE FLASH-BACK?!
AND TAKE THOSE SUN-GLASSES OFF! YOU DON'T NEED 'EM HERE!

OKAY... SO OUR CLUB ROOM IS AS BRIGHT AS A SUN RIGHT NOW.
TWO OR THREE SUNS.
.....

ANYWAY, SO YOU'RE SAYING OUR CLUB ROOM IS GLOWING RIGHT NOW?
WHAT THE HECK?
THAT ROOM IS GLOW-ING.
GLOWING WITH THE LIGHT OF AT LEAST TWO SUNS, IF NOT THREE.

OH. SO THAT'S WHAT HAP-PENED.
I GUESS WE CAN LET YOU BORROW OUR ROOM FOR A LITTLE WHILE...
AND UH, NOW THAT KAZAMA'S BACK, I'M NOT ALL THAT UN--
SHWAK

NOW WE CAN GO BACK TO OUR ROOM!

HEY, ALL. LOOKS LIKE THIS TABLET THINGY IS DONE CHARGING OR WHATEVER. THE CLUB ROOM IS OPEN AGAIN.
HUH?! IT'S DONE? AL-READY ?!
YAY! ♪
And I had a nice nap.

IT SOUNDED LIKE YOU WERE IN THE MIDDLE OF SAYING SOME-THING.
KATUNK
OH YEAH. HEY, TAKAO?

YIKES !!
GET. OUT. JUST... GET OUT!!

TAKAO, I'M SORRY THE CLUB IMPOSED ON YOU AND TOOK OVER YOUR CLUB ROOM.
HUH?! N-NO, THAT'S OKAY ...!

DON'T WORRY. WE WILL BE SURE TO EAT ALL THE SNACKS AND DRINK ALL THE SODA YOU PROVIDED BEFORE WE LEAVE.
FLAKEY AND GREEDY!

AUGH! I ALMOST FORGOT JUST HOW FLAKEY ALL OF YOU CAN BE! NOW I JUST FEEL STUPID!
YEAH, THAT'S A DUMB THING TO FORGET.

HERE. TAKE THIS FOR YOUR TROUBLES. YOU CAN HAVE IT.
SWF
YOU JUST DON'T WANT IT ANY-MORE!!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO TAKE THAT IF YOU DON'T WANT IT! REALLY!
UM... THANK YOU... FOR THE GIFT...
SEE?! TAKAO IS WAY TOO POLITE FOR HER OWN GOOD!
IF A TEACHER OFFERS HER A GIFT, THERE'S NO WAY SHE'D SAY NO!
LOOK, I'LL TAKE IT OFF YOUR HANDS IF YOU DON'T WANT IT!
Ugh! What a pain!
YANK
WHY? YOU'RE JUST GOING TO LEAVE IT TO SIT IN OUR CLUB ROOM, AREN'T YOU?!
YEAH, AND?!
NOW WHO'S BEING GREEDY, KAZAMA-SAN?!

TAP
AM NOT! I'M JUST TRYING TO MAKE SURE WE DON'T IMPOSE ON TAKAO MORE THAN WE ALREADY HAVE!
BLUUUSH
NO, REALLY. LET GO.
TUG.
TUG.
TUG.
EH?
HEY, UH, TAKAO? YOU CAN LET GO NOW.

I SAID LET GO AL-READY !!
IT'S ONLY A LITTLE TOUCH!! WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL?!
BESIDES, YOU WERE OKAY WITH IT WHEN IT WAS THE STUDENT COUNCIL PRESI-DENT!
HUH ?!

I DON'T HAVE A CLUE ABOUT WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT!
FINE! I DON'T CARE!
Clever, Takao
DAMMIT, I'M TOTALLY TAKING THIS NOW!
W-WELL YOU'LL HAVE TO TAKE IT FROM ME!
WAIT, NO! NOT BY THE HORN! TAKE THE WHOLE THING! ALL OF IT!
HUH ?!

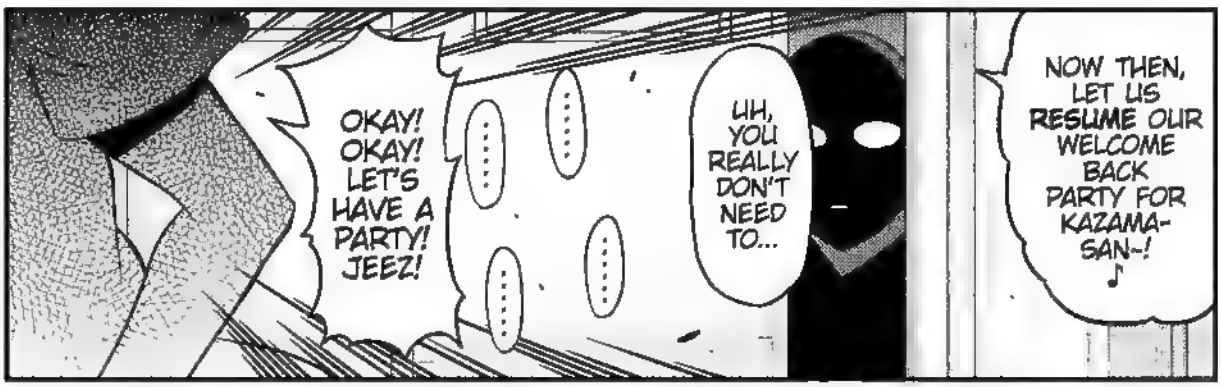
KRAAK
OW! OW, NOT SO HARD!
WHY ARE YOU BEING SO WEIRD ?!

BWUH ...?
DING
Oh well. I don't really care.
I DIDN'T MEAN TO BREAK IT. I-I JUST WANTED TO...
OH MY GOSH, I-I'M SO SORRY!
TMP
NO. THAT'S ACTUALLY A LUCKY BREAK.
I THINK IT BEST THAT THE (REAL) GAME DEV. CLUB KEEPS ONE PART, WHILE WE KEEP THE OTHER.
NOW THAT THE CRYSTAL SKULL HAS BROKE-- I MEAN, HAS SPLIT INTO TWO HALVES...
HUH?!
IT SHALL BE THE SYMBOL OF THE PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP OF OUR GAME DEV. CLUB ALLIANCE!!
GAME DEV. CLUB ALLI-ANCE?!

IF IT MEANS YOU'LL FORGIVE ME...
THEN I'LL HAPPILY TAKE IT.

A BRIDGE BETWEEN CLUBS...
Can't we just fix it?
We could glue it back together or some-thing-
BETWEEN US...

YAAAY! WITH THIS, OUR TWO GRAND AND ILLUSTRIOUS GAME DEVELOPMENT CLUBS HAVE FINALLY BURIED THE HATCHET AND FORMED A PACT OF FRIENDSHIP! ♪
THOSE ARE BIG WORDS AFTER WE INVADED THEIR CLUB ROOM TO THROW A PARTY, BUT I'LL KEEP THAT TO MYSELF... FOR ONCE.


NOW THEN, LET US RESUME OUR WELCOME BACK PARTY FOR KAZAMA-SAN~! ♪
UH, YOU REALLY DON'T NEED TO...
OKAY! OKAY! LET'S HAVE A PARTY! JEEZ!

SHEEERS!!☆
OUR CLUB ROOM...
IT'S BEEN TAKEN OVER...!

NEXT Vol.11...

Cheers!

D-FRAGMENTS
ディーフラグメンツ!

Bonus Manga #1

And I can one-hit the final boss...
HUH? UM... OH. DO YOU MEAN IN THE GHASTS 'N GHOULS RPG I'M PLAYING RIGHT NOW? WELL, I MANAGED TO HIT MAX LEVEL AT LEVEL 255...
I'M NOT TALKING ABOUT YOUR STUPID GAMES!!

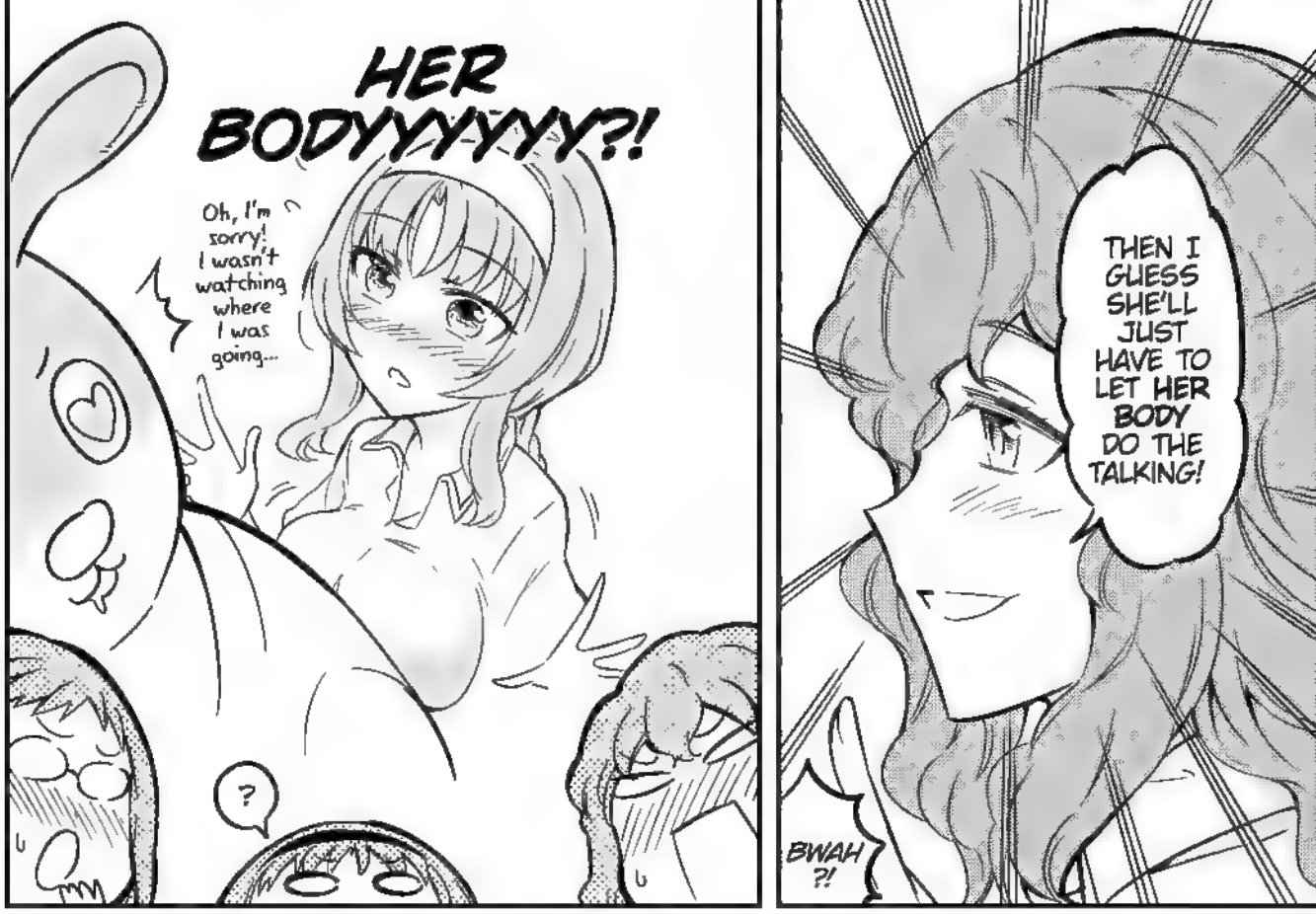
YOU HAVE?! WAIT, YOU DO KNOW WHAT WE'RE TALKING ABOUT, RIGHT?
WELL, I'VE MADE PRO-GRESS!
MEN, RIGHT?
YOU'RE KIDDING! YOU?! PRO-GRESS?! WITH A HUMAN MALE?!
UGH. OKAY. I GET IT. STOP STUT-TERING!
P-PROGRESS ...? WITH GUYS? ME? UM... W-WELL...

OH, OF COURSE IT'S A MONSTER! I SHOULD HAVE GUESSED!!
Here?
NO! THE ABOMINABLE SNOWMAN! DUH! I'VE FINALLY NARROWED DOWN WHERE HE MIGHT LIVE!!

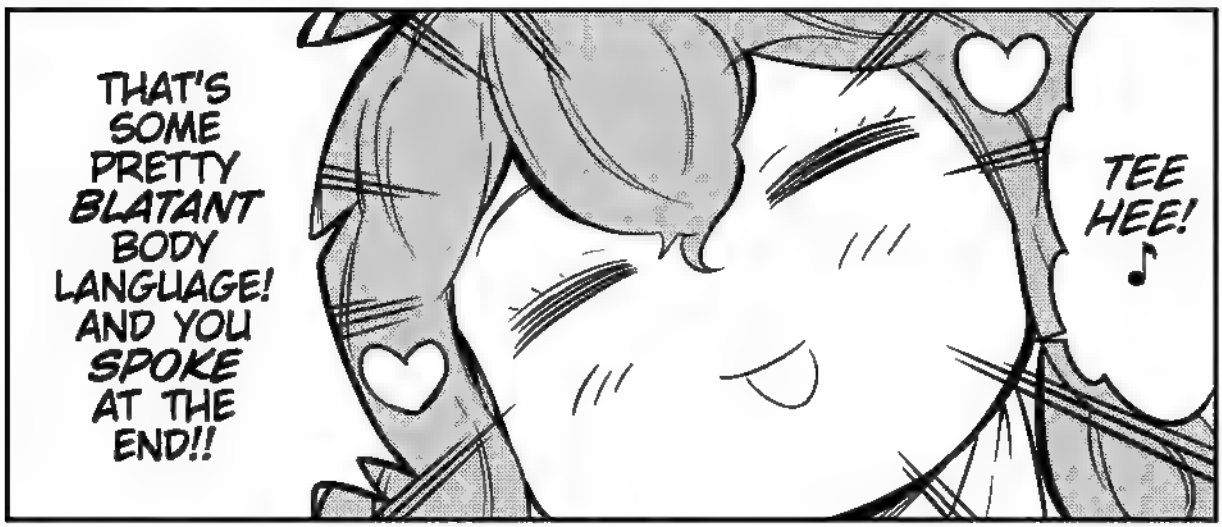
DON'T YOU DARE TRY TO SNEAK AWAY!
WHOA, HOLD IT!
SNEAK

YOU DON'T HAVE TO GO CHASING MYTHS TO FIND A GUY! HALF THE PLANET'S POPULATION IS MALE!!
BUT IT IS MALE. IT EVEN HAS "MAN" IN ITS NAME.

SEE, MOM?! DO YOU GET IT NOW?! IT DOESN'T MATTER IF SHE INHERITED YOUR BIG-BOOB GENES! IT'S EVERYTHING ELSE THAT'S THE PROBLEM!
THAT'S TRUE.
I MEAN, YOU OUGHT TO WORK ON YOUR OWN FLAWS BEFORE ATTACKING OTHERS...BUT YOU'VE STILL GOT A POINT.
!!
BESIDES, SHE'S STILL YOUNG. I THINK IT'S PERFECTLY FINE IF SHE WANTS TO TAKE HER TIME.
YEAH, SHE'S YOUNG! BUT EVERY-ONE AROUND HER IS YOUNG, TOO!
IF SHE DOESN'T STEP UP, THE OTHERS AROUND HER WILL STEAL HIM AWAY!
OTHERS... AROUND ME...?
HOLY CRAP! SHE'S GOT EVEN MORE RIVALS AROUND HER NOW?! WHAT IS SHE, THE HEROINE OF A REVERSE HAREM SERIES?!
THIS IS BAD. REALLY BAD! YOU'VE GOTTA TAKE THE INITIATIVE! GO ON THE ATTACK! SAY IT FIRST! CONFESS YOUR FEELINGS!!
GO ON THE... ATTACK? LIKE... ATTACK PHASE...? LIKE IN GHASTS 'N GHOULS ...?
UGH! SHE'S HOPELESS! EVEN WITHOUT A GUY HERE SHE STILL CAN'T GET THE WORDS OUT!
SMMR SMMR
OH MY. WELL, IF SHE CAN'T SAY THE WORDS ...


HER BODYYYYYY?!
Oh, I'm sorry! I wasn't watching where I was going...
?
THEN I GUESS SHE'LL JUST HAVE TO LET HER BODY DO THE TALKING!
BWAH ?!

LEAN
LOVE HEART BEAM~♪


THAT'S SOME PRETTY BLATANT BODY LANGUAGE! AND YOU SPOKE AT THE END!!
TEE HEE! ♪

THE ABOMINABLE SNOWMAN WILL UNDERSTAND GESTURES BETTER THAN SPOKEN WORDS!
WHAT IF IT THINKS YOU'RE THREATENING HIM?!
NOW GIRLS, LET'S ALL TRY IT TOGETHER! ♪
WAIT, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! HECK NO!
TEE HEE! ♡
LEAN
JOYFUL HEART BEEEAN
EVERYONE, I'M HOME. BOY, TODAY WAS SURE HOT--
BA-THUMP-!
YOU MUST FEEL REAL LOVED RIGHT NOW!
WOW, DAD! TALK ABOUT TIMING!

END

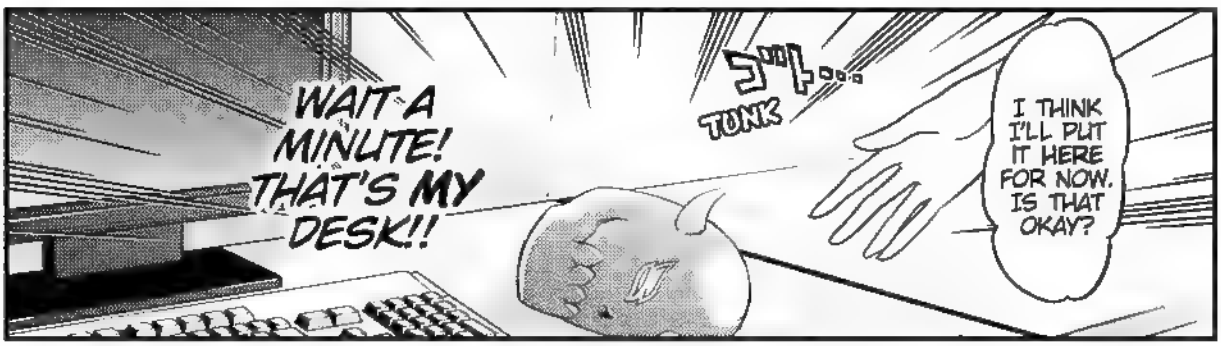
What's that? Some kind of new stretch?
Umm... L-L-Lo...

COME, EVERYONE. LET US ENJOY THIS HUMBLE WELCOME BACK PARTY FOR KAZAMA-SAN.
AS THE GUEST OF HONOR, KAZAMA-SAN, HOW ABOUT YOU GIVE US A SPEECH?
HUH?!
Bonus Manga #2
THE REAL GAME DEVELOPMENT CLUB
CHATTER
CHATTER
CHATTER
WHOA, WHOA, WHOA! WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING, THROWING A PARTY IN SOME OTHER CLUB'S CLUB ROOM?!
UM... LEMME THINK A SEC...
UH... Y'KNOW, I CAN'T THINK OF ANYTHING TO SAY. SORRY.
YOU DON'T HAVE A THING TO SAY, DO YOU, KAZAMA SEMPAI? SO KEEP YOUR DAMN MOUTH SHUT!
THERE, SEE?! NOW GET LOST! PARTY'S OVER! SHOO! SCRAM!!
UM, W-WELL, YOU'VE GOT MORE GAME CONSOLES HERE, WHICH MAKES THIS PLACE SEEM MORE FUN?
Ish?
TELL ME AGAIN WHY WE'RE HAVING THE PARTY HERE?
AH...
SHOOP
ARGH!, I CAN'T TAKE THIS ANYMORE! AS AN OFFICIAL CLUB MEMBER, I'LL BRING OUR GRIEVANCES TO THE CLUB CAPTAIN...

OH, BUT THE CAPTAIN LOOKS SO HAPPY...
SHE FINALLY HAS SOME LITTLE THING SHE CAN LORD OVER THOSE OTHER GUYS, AND THAT'S ENOUGH TO TURN HER MOOD AROUND...
OH... W-WELL, WE ARE THE REAL GAME DEV. CLUB. OF COURSE WE'D HAVE A LOT OF CONSOLES!

WHAT THE HECK?! SHE ALMOST SOUNDS LIKE SHE'S GOING TO START SOME KIND OF FIGHT!
ABOUT THE SYMBOL OF OUR NEWLY FORMED ALLIANCE OF FRIENDSHIP, THIS CRYSTAL SKULL...

BY THE WAY...
I GUESS I COULD LOOK THE OTHER WAY JUST FOR TODAY.


WAIT A MINUTE! THAT'S MY DESK!!
コト
TONK
I THINK I'LL PUT IT HERE FOR NOW. IS THAT OKAY?

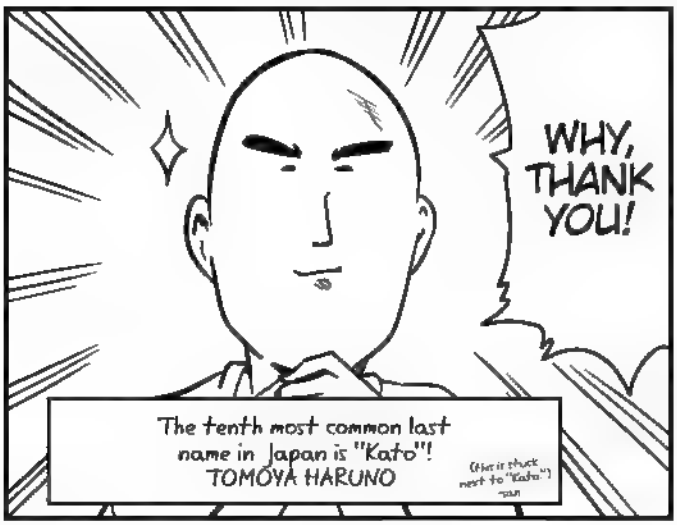
WHAT?!
IT IS?!
OH, BUT THIS IT IS A VERY USEFUL ITEM. WHY NOT GIVE IT TO HER AS A SURPRISE?

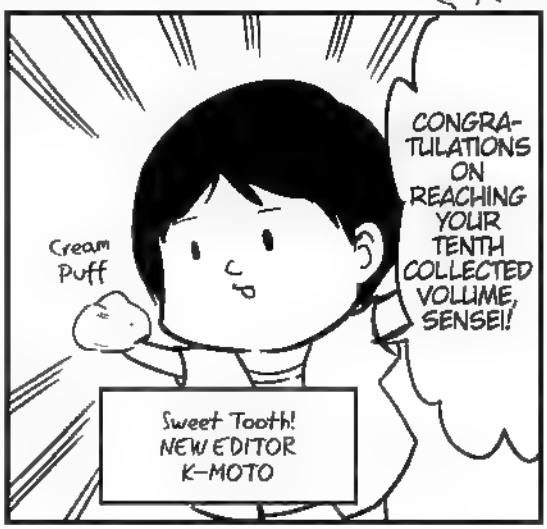
HEY! THAT'S INADA'S DESK. YOU SHOULDN'T PUT IT THERE WITHOUT PERMISSION.
THAT'S IT, CAPTAIN! YOU TELL 'ER!! I'VE TOTALLY GOT YOUR BACK ON THIS!!
WHY DO WE NEED SOME DUMB TRINKET AS A SYMBOL OF FRIENDSHIP?! WE DON'T!! IT'S JUST A WASTE OF SPACE!

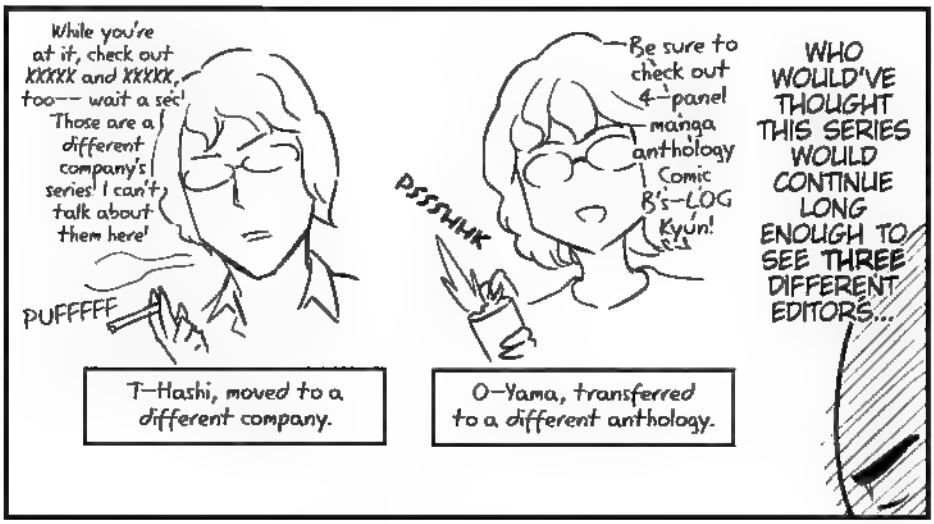
SUMMER AND ITS OPPRESSIVE HEAT HAVE JUST ARRIVED.
MIIIIIN
CHIRRR
CHIRRR
MIIIIIN
SITTING BY A HOT COMPUTER IN SUCH WEATHER WOULD BE TOO SWELTERING TO BEAR.
ENTER THIS CRYSTAL SKULL, WITH ITS SMOOTH AND COOL SURFACE!
ONE TOUCH OF ITS CHILLY CURVES WILL BE JUST AS REFRESHING AS HOLDING THAT!
CHILL
HOLDING WHAT?!
ALSO, WHEN SHE GETS FRUSTRATED ABOUT SOMETHING, GRIPPING ITS HORN SEEMS LIKE IT WOULD BRING AT LEAST SOME STRESS RELIEF.
HNNNNGH!
THAT WOULD LEAVE ME TYPING WITH ONLY ONE HAND!!
OH. THAT MAKES SENSE.
NO, IT DOESN'T!!
I'M SURE INADA WILL LOVE IT!
NO, I WON'T! IT'S JUST A PIECE OF JUNK!!
AFTERWARDS, INADA SHOVED IT TO THE FAR CORNER OF HER DESK AND LEFT IT THERE.

End

~~CRAMMED AT THE BACK OF THE BOOK DUE TO LACK OF STORY SPACE~~ A Volume 10 Special 2-PAGE Backstage Uran






While you're at it, check out XXXXX and XXXXX, too-- wait a sec! Those are a different company's series! I can't talk about them here!
PUFFFFF
T-Hashi, moved to a different company.
Be sure to check out 4-panel manga anthology Comic B's-LOG Kyun!
PSSSHHK
O-Yama, transferred to a different anthology.
WHO WOULD'VE THOUGHT THIS SERIES WOULD CONTINUE LONG ENOUGH TO SEE THREE DIFFERENT EDITORS...

ARE YOU SURE THIS ISN'T JUST AN EXCUSE FOR YOU TO EAT MORE SWEETS?
OF COURSE NOT! I AM CONCERNED FOR YOUR HEALTH AND ENERGY, SENSEI! AND I WANT SWEETS, TOO!
SENSEI, YOU MUST BE TIRED! IT'S AT TIMES LIKE THESE WHEN YOU SHOULD EAT SOMETHING SUGARY TO REFRESH YOUR MIND AND BODY!
Local Restaurant We Always Visit
MENU

ONE CINNAMON APPLE PIE AND ONE ANCHOVY PIZZA, PLEASE!
YOU SWEET TOOTH!
DING DONG
WHY ARE YOU GETTING SOME-THING SALTY?! IS THIS SOME KIND OF REBEL-LION?!
OKAY... I GUESS I'LL HAVE AN ANCHOVY PIZZA, THEN.
HUH?! O-OH, UH... TO READ MORE OF D-FRAG!
!!
ANYWAY!! I HOPE ALL OF YOU WILL STICK AROUND...
ONE CINNAMON APPLE PIE AND ONE ANCHOVY PIZZA, CORRECT?
OH! R-RIGHT!
HEY !!
THIS SEGMENT DOESN'T REALLY NEED TWO PAGES, DOES IT?

SPECIAL THANKS!!
BAKU MIKAGE-SAN, YUKINOJOU-SAN, OHYAMA-SAN (FORMER EDITOR), KAWAMOTO-SAN (CURRENT EDITOR), LIGHTNING TOMIYAMA-SAN (FINAL BOSS), AND MY WONDERFUL READERS!!

SEVEN SEAS ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS

D-FRAG!

story and art by **TOMOYA HARUNO**

VOLUME 10

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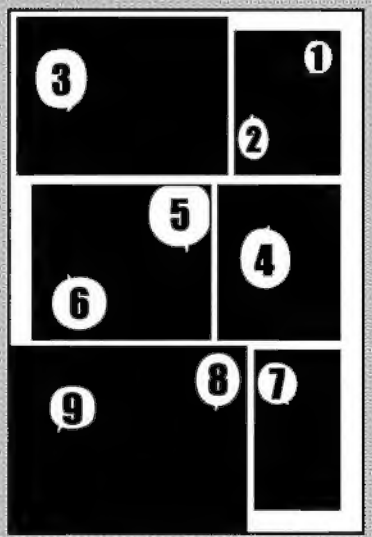
READING DIRECTIONS

This book reads from ***right to left***, Japanese style. If this is your first time reading manga, you start reading from the top right panel on each page and take it from there. If you get lost, just follow the numbered diagram here. It may seem backwards at first, but you'll get the hang of it! Have fun!!



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HAIR TODAY, GONE TOMORROW!

In order to defeat Roka in a challenge, Kenji had to sacrifice his most distinctive feature...his spiky hair! But ever since getting a buzzcut, Kenji has been mysteriously absent from the Game Development Club (Temp). Surely his club mates will search for him...unless of course they're all busy trying to discover the truth behind a series of urban legends swirling around Fujou Academy.

Will the Game Development Club find out why there are so many bald guys at their school? Will the series ever get its main character back? Find out in vol.10 of this supernatural high school comedy!

Rated: TEEN

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